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THE TELEPHONE IN CACTUS CENTER

There's a telephone in Cactus—it's a new, long-talk machine,
And the girl who operates it is a reg'lar fairy queen;
The comp'ny sent her in here fer to run the thing in style,
And she's got the cowboys looced clear from here to Forty Mile.

She wears a janglin' bracelet and a rollin' mass of hair,
And when good looks was passeled she was handed out her share;
She sets there in her glory, in her awe-inspirin' togs,
And she knows that she's the ruler in this land of prairie dogs.

The boys they come a-ridin' from the corners of the range,
And they moon around in Cactus, and they're actin' mighty strange;
They have cut out cyards and drinkin', and they make a plum mean fuss
If a puncher who's forgetful rips a loud, resoundin' cuss.

They flock up to the office, and they spend their hard-earned dough,
Phonin' off to cities where there ain't no folks they know;
It's money fer the comp'ny, but it breaks the boys like sin,
For, unlike their gamblin' pastimes, there is nary chance to win.

So, unless the girl flits eastward, there'll be trouble here this fall,
For the roundup season's comin' and we can't get help at all;
It's hades, ain't it, pardner, when one woman in her pride,
Hits a county full of cowboys roped and throwed, and then hog tied?

—Denver Republican.

FREAK POTATO.

Frightens Farmers Who Thought It Was a Rattleenake.

"Snakes!" shouted H. E. King, of Harbor Beach, as he dropped his spade and beat a hasty hot foot out of his garden yesterday mornign.

"Rattler, sure enough!" exclaimed Harvey Bassett, 12 years old, as he hastily mounted to the roof of the woodshed.

But the squirming, twisting object that dropped from the older man's spade lay quietly in the grass where it had rolled and showed no signs of life.

About that time several neighbors, attracted by the noise, arrived on the scene, and occupying various places of vantage on the fence and side lot, began to pass judgment on the queer thing that poked its nose so threateningly from the edge of the lettuce patch.

A scientific appearing gentleman from the east, from a safe distance, predicted it was a snail—he had seen many of them before of such size—but he modestly retired when asked to investigate.

A westerner was sure it was a rattler. "See," said he, "it is all curled up ready to strike—I know 'em."

"Will you kill it for us, please?" asked a fair maid with plaintive voice.

"Er-r, sure, with pleasure—um—but you see, I must go to town at once," and he decamped in a hurry to the fence and paused a moment.

After an hour a youth, braver than the rest, volunteered to kill the beast."

Approaching cautiously with a rake he struck the intruder a violent blow, and then with a stifled laugh turned it over with a stick.

"What is it?" whispered the maid.

"Potato!" chirped the youngster.

"Potato!" echoed all in chorus as they gathered around.

And it was a potato, sure enough—one of the most peculiar potatoes ever seen and a very freakish one—but still a potato.

The twisting object circling around it is a heavy wire spring about an eighth of an inch thick.

Evidently the seed sprouted between one of the spirals of the spring which lay upright in the ground, and as the potato grew it followed the wire around.

A remarkable feature of the freak is the pressure which it exerted on the spring on the second turn. A strong man cannot pull the spring out of shape, but the potato forced this part an inch out of place.

The entire history of its growth is recorded on the spring, which shows by the force exerted on it which way the potato grew and where it started.

The foliage reached the surface of the ground through the top part of the spring.

It was sent to Detroit by young Bassett, of No. 399 Brooklyn avenue, this city, and will be presented by him to Fred Postal, president of the state fair, to be placed as an exhibit in the next show.—Detroit Free Press.

THE SHIPS THAT SINK

What Becomes of Those That Go to the Bottom of the Sea.

What becomes of the ship that sinks in midocean? If it is of wood it takes, in the first place, considerable time for it to reach the bottom. In a hundred or more fathoms of water a quarter of an hour will elapse before the ship reaches bottom. It sinks slowly, and when the bottom is reached it falls gently into the soft, oozy bed, with no crash or breaking.

Of course, if it is laden with pig iron or corresponding substances, or if it is an iron ship, it sinks rapidly and sometimes strikes the bottom with such force as to smash in pieces. Once sunken a ship becomes the prey of the countless inhabitants of the ocean.

They swarm over and through the boat and make it their home. Besides this, they cover every inch of the boat with a thick layer of lime. This takes time, of course, and when one generation dies another continues the work until finally the ship is so laden with heavy incrustations, corals, sponge and barnacles that, if wood, the creaking timbers fall apart, and slowly but surely are absorbed in the waste at the sea bottom.

Iron vessels are demolished more quickly than those of wood, which may last for centuries. The only metals that withstand the chemical action of the waves are gold and platinum, and glass also seems unaffected. No matter how long gold may be hidden in the ocean, it will always be gold when recovered, and this fact explains the many romantic and adventurous searches after hidden submarine treasures lost in shipwrecks.—Baltimore Sun.

PENNSYLVANIA'S STRANGE BEAST

Philadelphia Press.

Residents of Georgetown and Laurel Run, on the mountain near Wilkesbarre, have been frightened by some strange animal during the last few days, which they say has appeared from the brush along the mountain road between the two places. Opinions as to what it is differ.

Some say it is an enormous ape and others that it is a bear which has wandered down from the Bear creek district, where they are plentiful.

Those who have seen it have not waited to make any investigation, but have fled as fast as they could.

Telegraphy in War Days

Lively Experience of an Operator With Guerrillas While on Top of a Tall Pole.

There is a little round prairie containing several acres of land 20 miles east of Independence, on the old Lexington road, which was the scene of a dramatic incident during the Civil war. W. F. Bassett, one of the oldtime military telegraph operators, tells the story, says the Kansas City Star:

"I was operator on the staff of General Curtis," said he, "during the raid of General Sterling Price in 1864. General Curtis was stationed at Independence with between 8,000 and 10,000 men to check the advance of General Price until General Pleasanton, who was thundering in his rear with 20,000 veteran cavalry, could overtake him. General Price was reported at Boonville, and one morning General Curtis summoned me to his headquarters.

"'An escort of 200 men under Colonel Scott,' said he, 'will be ready in an hour, and I desire you to proceed to Lexington to repair the wires where they have been cut and notify me from Lexington of the movements of General Price.'

"It required two days for us to repair wires along the route, and the second morning after leaving Independence we dashed into Lexington with a wild yell and sabers drawn, but found no one to resist us. Colonel Scott immediately sent out scouts east to reconnoiter, who returned about 11 o'clock and reported Price's advance under Shelby about 12 miles distant moving forward and likely to reach Lexington about 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Shortly after 3 o'clock scouts on the lookout reported Shelby only three miles from town, and soon we left the western part of town just as Shelby was entering from the east. We met with no serious opposition until darkness set in, when the guerrillas in force began to harass us from the woods on each side of the road. We soon discovered that considerable force had followed us from Lexington, and our situation became perilous. We were prevented from marching rapidly by the continuous firing of the enemy, a wounded man having now and then to be taken care of. The idea of the enemy was to retard our progress as much as possible until they received further re-enforcements sufficient to surround and capture our escort of 250 men.

"At midnight we reached the little round prairie east of Independence, and Colonel Scott concluded to halt there until morning. The situation was indeed discouraging and our chances for escape in the morning were not alluring. There was a little farmhouse in the center of the little prairie and the telegraph line ran along the road in front of the house, but, presuming as a matter of course that the enemy had cut the wires east and west, we did not at first consider them as a factor in the emergency we had to meet. The coming of daylight meant a hot fight and perhaps defeat and capture also. The men were held in line under arms outside and the officers sat in the little farmhouse smoking and telling stories, as if not an enemy was near to disturb their peace of mind. I remember that one of the officers told the story of the siege of Lucknow in India during the Sepoy rebellion of 1856, when Jessie Brown, the half-witted daughter of a sergeant, three days before the coming of relief to the beleagured garrison, ran around crying out excitedly:

"'Dinna ye hear it? Dinna ye hear it? 'Tis the slogan sound, 'tis the bagpipes of the Highlanders, the Campbells are comin'.' And the third day afterwards Lord Colin Campbell marched in with the clan Campbell regiment, the slogan sounding and the bagpipes playing, and the garrison was saved.

"About 1 o'clock an incident occurred which forcibly illustrated the saying that nothing should be taken for granted in war, but that every possible chance for relief shoud be taken advantage of. I said to Colonel Scott:

"'There is one chance in a hundred that They have not destroyed the wires west of us; suppose we try it.'

"I put on my pole climbers, strapped my field instrument over my shoulder, and a haversack with a coil of wire and tools in it. I hac also swung a lighted lantern over my shoulder. Getting to the top of the pole, I at once connected the instrument with the wire, a loop constructed for the purpose holding the two ends together. But the little instrument did not respond, and it seemed that the wires were dead. I took a coil of copper wire from my tool sack, and, holding to one end, let the coil drop to the ground.

"'Stick the end of this wire into the ground as far as you can,' I cried to the men below. This I intended to use as a ground wire testing east and west. As soon as they stuck the wire in the ground I touched the other end to the end of the telegraph wire and the little instrument snipped, and I knew the wire was all right west. The letter D was the call for General Curtis' headquarters, and I immediately began calling. I was answered after a few signals, and some one said:

"'Who is that?'

"'S. T.' was my telegraph signature, and I replied:

"'This is S. T., twenty miles east of Independence on top of a telegraph pole. Take this message quick from Colonel Scott to General Curtis:

"'Surrounded twenty miles east on the Lexington road by a large force. Badly in need of relief.'

"In five minutes a reply came, saying: 'Relief will start in an hour.'

"I was sitting on the pole well satisfied with myself when a rapid firing all at once opened up from the woods. I did not fully comprehend this sudden fusillade until one of the officers cried out:

"'They have caught on, young fellow, and are firing at you and that lantern.'

"With one convulsive movement I threw out my left arm and let the lantern fall to the ground, for I could hear the spit, spit of the bullets, and knew they were getting a good aim on me. I lost no time in shinning down that telegraph pole, I can assure you.

"Nothing further occurred until just as dawn was breaking. One of the officers went out and returned quickly, saying to Colonel Scott:

"'The Campbells are coming.'

"A few minutes thereafter a regiment dashed in and the enemy, observing the unexpected turn of events retired, and we were saved.

"I never met a cooler or braver man under trying circumstances than Colonel Scott. He seemed to be a man wholly without fear and ready, with almost exasperating coolness, for any emergency.

"We reached Independence without further adventure, finding when we came to the Little Blue, ten miles east, Colonel Moonlight, with his intrepid Kansans and the Second Colorado cavalry, both of which had been sent out as an advance picket guard by General Curtis. The fight that evening at Little Blue, when Major Smith, commanding the Second Colorado cavalry, and George Todd, the noted bushwhacker, were killed, with many others, belong to the history of the celebrated raid."—Kansas City Star.

SEEDS FROM EVERY LAND.

Agricultural Department Draws Upon the Whole World.

The work begun in the early days of the Republic when an American minister to a European country filled his pockets with seeds which he thought might be adapted to the soil of the United States has grown until today every land is levied upon for contributions to the agricultural resources of this one.

From the banks of the far-away Tigris have been brought by the explorers for the department of agriculture the seeds which are today represented by 3,000 date palm trees in the Arizona desert. The explorers of the department have invaded the Indian jungles, endured the hardships of the Siberian steppes, sweltered in the burning heat of the Sahara and risked their lives in the plague district of Hungary that American agriculture might be enriched with the best fruits of every clime.

The demand for an alfalfa which would resist drouth was met by the introduction of a variety from Turkestan. This yields a larger crop than the ordinary variety and today may be seen waving on thousands of western acres. Wheat growers of the northwest complained that the rust was eating up their crop and from Russia came the durum wheat, which has revolutionized wheat growing in the semiarid region in the west.

The rice grown in Louisiana and Texas was unsatisfactory and today half the rice grown is of the Kiushu variety, which was introduced from Japan to take the place of the native grain.

In many instances the work of the explorer is delicate as well as difficult and diplomacy is required in order to secure the coveted seeds or cuttings, owing to the suspicion entertained by the natives of foreigners and their fear of competition if the product is introduced into other countries.

The department's representative in Bohemia spent many weeks in his effort to secure hop cuttings to be transplanted in this country, but today the Bohemian variety is being grown in California and experts expect to secure a substitute for the imported variety. The citrol cuttings brought to this country from Corsica could not be secured by the explorer openly and he was compelled to steal into a citrus grove to obtain them, packing them in potatoes for shipment to this country.

The work is by no means done when the seeds and cuttings reach the department of agriculture at Washington. On the grounds of the department thorough are great greenhouses where the second stage of the work is performed. Here the plants gathered from Siberian steppes and Indian jungles are developed. Here will be found date palm shoots that have scorched under the Algerian sun, the Manchuria seedless persimmons, grafted on the ordinary stock, the Japanese loquat tree, the pistache tree from the levant and the Mexican sisal from which twine is made. Of this twine millions of dollars' worth is imported every year. Through the department of agriculture the whole world is coming to the aid of the American farmer.—World's Work.

TO BOOM NOVA SCOTIA.

A movement is on foot in Halifax for the establishment of a publicity bureau to advertise the industrial and tourist advantages of Nova Scotia throughout the United States. The experience of other communities has convinced the Halifax tradesmen that such an enterprise is bound to be profitable. Nova Scotia is rather remote from most parts of the United States, but there is no gap too wide to be bridged by publicity. If settlers can be attracted a thousand miles or more by advertising, oughtn't it to be comparatively easy to attract buyers to your store right here at home by the same means.—Philadelphia Record.

THE CAREFUL ROAD.

I.

Chillun, you hear me!
Be keerful how you go—
Dar's trouble in the region
Whar dar's fever any snow;
Watch de way you travel,
An de hoe'in er yo row
'Fo' you lan' on de yuther side er Jordan!

II.

Chillun, you hear me!
Be keerful er de way;
Git out er de shadders
Whar de tri'bleople stay;
An 'don't you ax de devil
Fer ter tell de time er day
'Twel you lan' on de yuther side er Jordan.

—Atlanta Constitution.

TIP SYSTEM IN JAPAN

Scheme That Is Intended to Benefit the Poor Man.

"If our hotelkeepers should ever be told of the Japanese method of tipping we would all have to take to the woods," said a Far Eastern traveler. "In a Japanese hotel you give the proprietor the biggest tip of all when leaving and grade the other tips accordingly.

"When your bill is handed to you it is customary to wrap up in a separate piece of paper an amount approximating about one-fifth of the whole account and give that to the worthy innkeeper, together with the regular amount required of you by his account, which you inclose in the folded bill. Then you wrap up smaller sums in smaller pieces of paper and parcel these out among the servants who have waited on you.

"All hotel charges in Japan are forced by law to be very low, so that even the very poor man who finds himself on the road at night can get food and shelter for a nominal sum. The rich man has to pay no more than the beggar.

"Since the hotel man could not make a living if this order of things were allowed to exist without some saving grace, some recompense must be made to the hotelkeeper for his enforced generosity.

"But if a man whom the worthy host believes to be well able to afford a generous chodai leaves the hotel without paying the same, woe betide him should he ever return to that hostelry again."

SHOOTING GALLERY SECRET

The beach was empty. The boardwalk was dead. The shooting gallery man was packing to go south for the winter.

"Do you see this glass ball?" he said.

It was a ball of hollow glass, an airy glass soap bubble, that had swung all summer at the end of a thread in the foreground of the clay pipes, bells and whatnot that had made up the gallery's targets.

"This glass ball," the man went on, "is my great money maker. All summer long people tried to hit this ball—it was bigger and nearer than any other target—and everybody failed. Thousands of bullets were fired at the ball, thousands of nickels were spent on it, yet here it is, still untouched, my best breadwinner.

"All wise shooting gallery men have a glass ball like this. It makes such a tempting target, yet it is never hit. It is never hit because the air that precedes a gun charge is sufficient to blow the ball aside, out of the way. You might fire a hundred shots at it, but, like a living thing, like a timid soldier for instance, it would dodge each shot."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Theory That Horse Is a Fool Disproved.

When the motor car, with its goggled occupants, came round the corner the horses promptly stood on their hind legs.

"Shall I stop the engine?" the motorist asked obligingly.

"Never mind that, sir," said the driver of the dancing horses. "But if you gentlemen wouldn't mind just getting out and 'iding behind the car for a minute—the 'orses think it's a menagerie coming."—Punch.

BANFF, THE BEAUTIFUL

A Wonderful Part of the Canadian Rockies.

The exultant thrill of a new discovery fills your breast when, after two days of fruitless searching the western horizon, the Rocky mountains rise for the first time on your sight.

From Calgary, nestled on the plains, the route lies along the banks of the Bow river until the mountains rise like an impassable barrier before you, then the train suddenly plunges into a deep gorge cut through the granite range by the prehistoric glacier, whose course is now followed by the river.

A short twenty miles from the edge of the plains lands you deep in the mountains. Here, in a little valley surrounded by peaks 10,000 feet high, you will find "Banff, the Beautiful," noted already for the exquisite character of its scenery and destined to become famous for its magnificent hotels and splendid baths.

The Canadian government, recognizing the beauty of the valley and the value of the splendid hot springs that gush from the north side of Sulphur mountain, has already established here a magnificent national park, twenty-six miles long by ten miles wide, which includes within its borders not only the valley but all the important peaks that surround it.

Banff is, first of all, a place for rest and leisure. The view from the hotels on the side of the mountains is one of the finest afforded by any resort in the world. Just below, the Bow river dashes over the foot of Tunnel mountain in a series of beautiful falls. From the south the Spray river, noted for its fine fishing and the extraordinary size of its trout, comes tumbling down to join the Bow, while the united rivers dash eastward toward the plains. On the right rises the peculiar beak of Rundle mountain, while eastward, beyond the river, rise the snowy peaks of the Fairholme range.

The really excellent and healthgiving baths are no small attraction and, in addition to the private swimming pools there are several of nature's own—one beneath a dome-shaped cave and another, a natural basin, washed out of the solid rock, a sort of devil's washbowl, into which a large spring pours its streaming water.

Good roads and excellent trails, prepared by the government, run in every direction and many delightful excursions are possible. One of the finest excursions is a twelve-mile drive north across the Bow river and around the foot of Cascade mountain, down whose granite sides hang waterfalls of mist and spray fed by the miniature glaciers that lie hidden in the vast seams and chasms of its peak. The road leads along the side of the Buffalo range, where the Canadian government maintains one of the largest remaining herds of American bison.

At the foot of Cascade mountain large anthracite coal beds have been found and a flourishing town is growing up about the mines. For a long way the road skirts the edge of the precipitous valley of the Cascade, another glacial river that empties into the Bow, and while the driving is perfectly safe it appears sufficiently dangerous to satisfy any ordinary seeker after excitement or wild scenery.

A short distance above the mining camp the valley contracts into a beautiful gorge so narrow that the crossing is made from rocky edge to the other on rustic bridge of native timbers, while the river dashes betwen the precipitous sides beneath.

The end of the drive lands you at the little inn overlooking Lake Minnewanka, better known, however, as Devil's lake, noted for the excellent fish found in its waters. Here a steam launch will take you beneath the frowning cliffs at Mt. Inglesmaldie, around into the valley of the Ghost river—a wild region full of caves and lost rivers which drop suddenly into subterranean channels and leap again to the light like gushing springs from below.

The most striking feature of the drive back from the lake to Banff is the remarkable face to be seen in the rocky outline of Cascade mountain. The summit, seen against the evening sky, shows a perfect profile of Andrew Jackson with his face upturned to the heavens. His hair, roached high above his forehead, as seen in the familiar portraits, is the northern peak of the mountain, while along its southern slope are the outlines of high forehead and deep-set eyes, his sharp nose, his thin drawn lips and firm chin, all perfectly shown. There he lies, his nose turned up forever to the celestial grindstone in disgust that this, his greatest monument, should be found outside the borders of his native land.

Above the falls of the Bow the river widens into a beautiful lake which half fills the valley and which furnishes excellent boating or canoeing for those who enjoy such sports.

Mountain climbing has not yet become the popular pastime in America that it is in Europe, but if you are looking for such strenuous sport there is no place where you can with greater comfort and ease begin its practice than among these monster hills. For beginners practice the easy dome of Tunnel mountain, only 1,000 feet above the hotels, will be found to take less than an hour, after which the excellent trails to the summit of Sulphur mountain will furnish only a half-day's climb for even the most inexperienced, while the view from its summit easily repays all the effort necessary to reach the top.—Four Track News.

LAW IN THE DEEDS.

The pioneer towns in the Imperial Valley in lower California have several unique features besides that of being considerably below the level of the sea. One of these is the depth of the soil, all alluvial, which is said to be not less than 700 feet, and another is the fact that there is not a saloon nor a gambling place in the whole valley with its present population of 10,000. This happy condition is owing primarily to the fact that when the valley was opened for settlement, about six years ago, the original owners of the land ran a clause in all their deeds forbidding the manufacture and sale of liquor on any and all property sold. Thus a prohibitory law of the most iron-clad kind has been fastened on the country. The natural result has been that the valley has been remarkably free from the evil elements that too often dominate frontier communities, and crime of all kinds, and especially crimes of violence, have been exceedingly rare. On the other hand, the condition named has attracted a temperate, thrifty and progressive class of settlers, who have placed emphasis upon the building up of schools, churches and industrial establishements rather than upon agencies of evil.—Leslie's Weekly.

CAME NEAR MARRYIN G.

Lander (Wyo.) Dispatch in New York World.

Richard Watson, a miner living in the mountains near Atlantic City, Wyo., discovered, a few hours before the time set for her marriage to him, that a young woman who has been known by the name of Anna Mills was his own sister.

Miss Watson was kidnaped from the home of her parents, near Toronto, Canada, when she was four years old, by James Mills, who was employed by her father as a farm hand. Mills brought her up to believe that he was her father. He brought her to the United States and kept her with him until ten years ago, when he deserted her in Butte, Mont. From there she came to Wyoming, where she and Watson met a few months ago.

THE Pillar of Light

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By LOUIS TRACY, Author of "The Wings of the Morning."

CHAPTER XV.

The twisted strands of tough hemp might have been an electric cable of utmost conductivity if its powers were judged by results. When willing hands had carefully hauled in the rope until the knot could be unfastened, and the end secured to the cord connecting the gallery with the entrance, a man was despatched to warn Brand that all was in readiness for the next step. The rough sailor was the messenger of the gods to those who waited on each story. As he ran upwards, climbing the steep stairs with the nimbleness of a monkey, he bellowed the great news to each crowded doorway. Seeing the girls in the kitchen, though already his breath was scant, he blurted out:

"It's all right, ladies! He's done the trick!"

On the next landing pallid women's faces gleamed at him.

"Rope aboard!" he gasped. "They're tyin' on legs o' mutton now."

Yet again he was waylaid on the floor above. Hard pressed for wind, he wheezed forth consolation.

"Just goin' to haul the bottled beer aboard," he grunted.

It would never do to pass the hospital without a word.

"Beef-tea an' port wine swimmin' here," he panted.

Brand was peering through the lantern door, awaiting this unwashed Mercury, who caught sight of the light-housekeeper 'ere his shaggy head had emerged from the well.

The man stopped, almost spent. He gave an off-handed sailor's salute.

"Haul away, sir!" he yelled, and his voice cracked with excitement. Indeed, they who remained quite coherent on the Gulf Rock, on the ships, and even on the cliffs nine miles away, were few in number and to be pitied exceedingly. There are times when a man must cheer and a woman's eyes glisten with joyous tears, else they are flabby creatures, human jellyfish. The steamboats snorted with raucous siren-blasts, and although the hoarse shouting of men and the whistling of steam were swept into space by the north wind in its rage, those on shore could read the riddle through their glasses of the retreating boat and the white vapor puffs.

The first to grasp Stanhope's hand when he swung himself onto the deck of the tender was Mr. Cyrus J. Traill.

"Well done, my lad!" he cried, brokenly. "I thought it was all up with you. Did you see her?"

"Yes, but only for a second."

"You thought it best not to join them?"

"You know that I would gladly go now and attempt it. But I dared not refuse the better way. I can't tell you what happened. Something stilled the sea like magic. Look at it now."

Assuredly the waves were breaking again around the pillar with all their wonted ferocity, but one among the Trinity House officers noticed a smooth, oily patch floating past the vessel.

"By Jove!" he shouted, "Brand helped you at the right moment. He threw some gallons of colza overboard."

Traill, a bronzed, spare, elderly man, tall and straight, with eyes set deep beneath heavy eyebrows, went to Jim Spence and Ben Pollard where they were helping to sling the Dalsy up to the Davits.

"I said five hundred between you," he briefly announced. "If the rope holds, and the three people I am interested in reach the shore alive, I will make it five hundred apiece."

Ben Pollard's mahogany face became several inches wider, and remained so permanently, his friends thought, but Jim Spence only grinned.

"You don't know the cap'n, sir. He'll save every mother's son—an' daughter, too—now he has a line aboard."

Then the ex-sailor, chosen with Ben from among dozens of volunteers owing to his close acquaintance with the reef, bethought him.

"You're treatin' Ben an' me magnificent, sir," he said, "but the chief credit is due to Mr. Stanhope. We on'y obeyed orders."

The millionaire laughed like a boy.

"I have not forgotten Mr. Stanhope," he said. "I am sure your confidence in Mr. Brand will be justified. You watch me smile when I ante up your share."

On board the tug, and on the gallery of the lighthouse there was no time for talk. The vessel, with the most skilful handling, might remain where she was for about four hours. She was already more than a hundred fathoms within the dangerous area marked by the buoy, and there was much to be done in the time.

The strongest rope, the best wire hawser, has its well-defined limit of strain, and the greater the length the greater the tension. From the buoy itself naught save a chain cable would hold in such a sea. The tug must operate from the nearer base. She was pitching and tossing in a manner calculated to daunt anyone but a sailor, and the slightest mistake made by the skipper, the burly oil-skinned man balancing himself on the bridge with his hand on the engine-room telegraph, would snap any line ever twisted.

So, briefly, this was the procedure adopted. A stout rope was bent onto that carried to the rock by Stanhope. With this was sent a whip, thus establishing a to-and-fro communication. The rope itself, when it had reached the rock, was attached to a buoy and anchored. Thus, it could be picked up easily if the thin wire hawser next despatched should happen to break.

A few words may cover a vast amount of exertion. Before the second line, with its running gear, was safely stayed around the body of the lantern — even the iron railing might give way—a precious hour had elapsed, and Stanhope was impatiently stamping about the bridge of the tender, though none knew better than he that not an unnecessary moment was being lost.

At last a signaler stationed on the tug was able to ask:

"What shall we send first?"

And the answer came back:

"Water, milk, bread."

All night tinsmiths had labored to enclose food and clothing in water-tight cylinders ready for transport, and the shining packages now began their voyaging from the tug's trawl-beam to the lofty gallery, three-fourths of the journey being through the sea. When the first consignment reached the rock, another lusty cheer boomed from the watching vessels.

Stanhope, at least, could picture the scene in progress behind the grim granite walls—Constance and Enid, with others whom he did not know, serving out generous draughts to thirsty and famished women and men, helping themselves last, and hardly able to empty the eight-gallon supply of fresh water before they were called on to distribute a similar quantity of milk.

And then, the bread, the cooked meat, all cut in slices, the tinned soups and meat extracts, the wines—for Traill had taken charge of the catering and his arrangements were lavish—what a feast for people almost on the verge of starvation!

The hours flew until the tug signaled that she must cast loose and back away from the reef. The tide was running westward now. Soon the danger would be active, and in any case, the Gulf Rock was saved from the possibility of famine during the next forty-eight hours. So the hawser, in its turn, was buoyed, and Brand's parting instruction was not to attempt to reopen communication during the dark hours of the morning tide.

The wisdom of his advice was manifest. With farewell trumpetings the vessels scurried off to Penzance, and the telegraph office was kept open all night transmitting the word-pictures of newspaper correspondents to thrill the world with full descriptions of the way in which the Gulf Rock's famished denizens had been relieved.

The two last packages ferried to the lighthouse contained, not only warm woolen wraps for the women and children, but a big bundle of letters and telegrams.

Pyne was the postman. There were at least twenty notes addressed to the girls, and several to Brand, from friends ashore.

Mr. Traill, of course, wrote to his nephew and Mrs. Vansittart. Naturally, Pyne carried his own missive to the kitchen, where he found that Constance and Enid had managed to wash in distilled water.

They were cutting sandwiches and endeavoring to read their letters at the same instant. He bowed with sarcastic politeness.

"I see you are ready for the party," he said.

Certainly he offered a deplorable contrast to them. His face was encrusted with salt and blackened with dirt and perspiration. His hands were like those of a sweep, but smeared with oil, which shone on his coat sleeves up to both elbows. His clothes were torn and soiled, his linen collar and cuffs limp as rags, and his waistcoat was ripped open, having remained in that condition since it caught in a block as he descended the mast.

"Oh, you poor fellow! cried Constance. "How you must envy us. Here is a kettleful of hot water. I can't say much for the towel, but the soap is excellent."

Refreshed, Pyne opened his uncle's letter. The girls were keeping up a running commentary of gossip.

"Mousie (Mrs. Sheppard) says she hasn't slept for three nights.

"Edith Taylor-Smith says she envies us."

"That letter you are reading now is from Lady Margaret. What does she say?"

"She sends all sorts of love, and—that kind of thing," cried the blushing Enid, who had just learnt from Jack's mother that Stanhope had appropriated her as his intended wife without ever a proposal.

"Is that all—in four closely written pages?"

"Well—she hopes soon to see me—to see both of us—"

Constance was too kind by to quiz her sister; maybe she saw something in Enid's eye which threatened speedy retaliation.

"Here's a note from the vicar. They have held a special service of intercession at St. Mary's."

"And Hettie Morris writes—Good gracious, Mr. Pyne! Have you had any bad news?

Enid's wondering cry was evoked by the extraordinary way in which the young American was looking at her. Some intensely exciting knowledge had mastered stoicism. His eyes were distended, his lips quivering. He leaned with one hand on the kitchen table; in the other he had clenched his uncle's letter.

Constance stood near to him. That he, of all the men she had ever met, should yield to an overpowering emotion, startled her greatly.

She caught his arm.

"Mr. Pyne," she said softly, "if—it is any ill tidings—you have received—we are, indeed, sorry for you."

He pulled himself straight, and gave Constance such a glance that she hastily withdrew her hand. It seemed to her that he would clasp her in his arms forthwith without spoken word. Her action served to steady him, and he laughed, so softly and pleasantly that their fear was banished.

"Girls," he said slowly, "I have been parachuting through space for a minute or so. I'm all right. Everybody is all right. But my head swims a bit. If I come back forgetting my name and the place where I last resided, remember that once I loved you."

He left them. He could not trust himself to say more.

"That letter was from his uncle, I suppose," said Enid, awe-stricken.

"It must be something very dramatic which would make him act so strangely. Why has he run away? Was he afraid to trust us with his news?"

There was a sharp vehemence in Constance's voice which did not escape her sister's sharp ears.

"Connie," said Enid, quietly, "as sure as Jack loves me, that man is in love with you."

"Enid—"

But the other girl laughed, with a touch of her saucy humor.

"Why did he look at you in that way just now? Didn't you think he was going to embrace you on the spot? Confess!"

"It was at you he was looking."

"Not in the way I mean. He gazed at me as if I were a spirit. But when you touched him he awoke. He might have been asleep and suddenly seen you near him. I wonder he didn't say 'Kiss me, dearest, and then I will be sure it is not a dream.'"

Constance discovered that she must defend herself.

"Mr. Pyne hardly conveyed such unutterable things to me," she said, conscious that a clean face betrays a flush which smudges may hide. "Have you had a letter from Jack that you can interpret other people's thoughts so sweetly?"

"No, dear. Jack has not written. I have found out the cause. His mother expresses the hope that he will be the first to convey her good wishes. So I think he meant to try and bring the rope himself. Dad knew it and Mr Pyne. That is why they did not tell us."

Constance gathered her letters into a heap. The tiny pang of jealousy which thrilled her had gone.

"Eighty-one hungry mouths expect to be filled to repletion tonight," she said. "No more gossip. What curious creatures women are! Our own affairs are sufficiently engrossing without endeavoring to pry into Mr. Pyne's."

"Connie, don't press your lips so tightly. You are just dying to know what upset him. But, mark my words, it had nothing to do with any other woman."

Wherein Enid was completely mistaken: she would never commit a greater error of judgment during the rest of her days.

When Pyne quitted the kitchen his intent was to reach Brand without delay. As he passed Mrs. Vansittart's bedroom he paused. Something had delighted him immeasurably once the first shock of the intelligence had passed.

He seemed to be irresolute in his mind, for he waited some time on the landing before he knocked at the door and asked if Mrs. Vansittart would come and speak to him.

"Are you alone?" she demanded, remaining invisible.

"Yes," he said.

Then she appeared, with that borrowed shawl closely wrapped over head and face.

"What is it?" she said wearily.

"You have had a letter from my uncle?"

"Yes, a charming letter, but I can not understand it. He says that some very important and amazing event will detain him in Penzance after we reach the place. He goes on—but I will read it to you. I am quite bewildered."

Shee took a letter from her pocket and searched through its contents until she found a paragraph. She was about to read it aloud when someone came down the stairs. It was one of the officers, yet Mrs. Vansittart was so flurried that she dropped the sheet of paper and bent to pick it up before Pyne could intervene.

"Oh, bother!" she cried. "I am dreadfully nervous, even now that we are in no further peril. This is what I wish you to hear."

And she read:

"Nothing but the most amazing and unlooked-for circumstances would cause me to ask you to pospone the date of our marriage for at least a month after you reach shore. This is not the time, nor are your present surroundings the place for telling you why I make this request. Suffice it to say that I think, indeed, I am sure, a great happiness has come into my life, a happiness which you, as my wife soon to be, will share."

The American, whilst Mrs. Vansittart was intent on her excerpts from his uncle's letter, studied all that was visible of her face. That which he saw there puzzled him. She had suffered no more than others, so he wondered why she wore such an air of settled melancholy. Throughout the lighthouse gloom was dispelled. The sick became well, the lethargic became lively. Even the tipplers of methylated spirits, deadly ill before, had worked like Trojans at the rope, as eager to rehabilitate their shattered character as to land the much-needed stores.

What trouble had befallen this woman, so gracious, so facile, so worshipful in her charm of manner and utterance during the years he had known her, that she remained listless when all about her was life and joyance, she, the cynosure of many eyes by her costumes and graceful carriage, cowering from recognition? Here was a mystery, though she had repudiated the word, and a mystery which, thus far, defeated his sub-conscious efforts at solution.

She lifted her eyes to his. Her expression was forlorn, compelling pity by its utter desolation.

"What does he mean?" she asked plaintively. "Why has he not spoken clearly? Can you tell me what it is, this great happiness, which has entered, so strangely, into his life and mine?"

"I have never met any man who knew exactly what he meant to say, and exactly how to say it, better than Cyrus J.," said Pyne.

"But he has written to you, surely. Does he give no hint?"

"His letter is a very short one. To be candid, I have hardly made myself acquainted with its contents as yet."

"You are fencing with me. You know, and you will not tell."

Her mood changed so rapidly that Pyne was not wholly prepared for the attack.

"It is a good rule," he said, "never to pretend you can handle another man's affairs better than he can handle them himself."

He met her kindling glance firmly. The anger that scintillated in her eyes almost found utterance. But this clever woman of the world felt that nothing would be gained, perhaps a great deal lost, by any open display of temper.

She laughed scornfully.

"Mr. Traill is certainly best judge of those worthy of his confidence. Excuse me if I spoke heatedly. Let matters remain where they were."

"Just a word, Mrs. Vansittart. My uncle has written you fairly and squarely. He has not denied you his confidence. If I understood you, he has promised it to the fullest extent."

"Yes, that is true."

"Then what are we quarreling about?"

He laughed in his careless way, to put her at her ease. She frowned meditatively. She, who could smile in such a dazzling fashion, had lost her art of late.

"You are right," she said slowly. "I am just a hysterical woman, starting at shadows, making mountains out of molehills. Forgive me."

As Pyne went on up the stairs his reflections took this shape:

"The old man shied at telling her outright. I wonder why. He is chock full of tact, the smoothest old boy I ever fell up against. He thinks there may have been little troubles here, perhaps. Well, I guess he's right."

In the service room he found Brand cleaning a lamp calmly and methodically. All the stores had been carried downstairs, and the store-room key given over to the purser.

"I am glad you have turned up," said the lighthouse keeper. "Oblige me by opening that locker and taking back the articles I purloined recently. If the purser asks for an explanation, tell him the truth, and say I am willing to eat this stuff now for my sins."

Pyne noticed that Brand's own letters lay in a small pile on the writing desk. With two exceptions, they were unopened. As a matter of fact, he had glanced at the superscriptions, saw that they were nearly all from strangers, and laid them aside until night fell and the lighting of the lamps would give him a spare moment.

"I'll do that with pleasure," said the American, "but there's one thing I want to discuss with you whilst there is a chance of being alone. My uncle says he has written to you."

"To me?"

"Yes. It deals with an important matter, too. It concerns Enid."

"Mr. Traill has written to me about Enid?" repeated Brand, stopping his industrious polishing to see if Pyne were joking with him.

"That's so. See, here is his letter. It will tell its own story. Guess you'd better read it right away."

The young man picked up one of the sealed letters on the table and handed it to the other.

Setting aside a glass chimney and a wash-leather, Brand lost no time in reading Mr. Traill's communication.

Save that his lips tightened, and his face paled slightly, there was no outward indication of the tumult the written words must have created in his soul, for this is what met his astonished vision:

"Dear Mr. Brand—I hope soon to make your acquaintance. It will be an honor to meet a man who has done so much for those near and dear to me, but there is one reason why I am anxious to grasp your hand which is so utterly beyond your present knowledge that I deem it a duty to tell you the facts, to prepare you, in a word.

"Circumstances have thrown me into the company of Lieutenant Stanhope. We had a kindred inspiration. He, I understand, is in effect, if not in actual recorded fact, the accepted suitor of your adopted daughter, known as Miss Enid Trevillion. I, although an older man, can share his feelings, because I am engaged to be married to Mrs. Vansittart, a lady whom you have, by God's help,

THE PROOF IS WHAT WE WANT.

Wilson, Conn., Feb. 18th, 1906.

Dear Sirs:

"A man could not be in any worse condition than I was with kidney and bladder troubles. I doctored with several good doctors and one physician told me I had Bright's Disease and that I would not live over six months. Another told me it was gall stones. I had severe pains in my kidneys all the while, could not stoop over, would be dizzy, could not lie down without someone helped me up; my back was weak and pained me; urine was as thick as cream and it would scald me something dreadful. I had to get up many times in the night to urinate.

"I took Swamp-Root and today I am a well man and never felt better. All of my troubles have gone and show no signs of returning. I take my oath that Swamp-Root put me where I am today and I can prove it by acquaintances."

Very truly yours,
E. H. RAND.

You may have a sample bottle of this wonderful remedy, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, sent absolutely free by mail, also a book telling all about Swamp-Root. If you are already convinced that Swamp-Root is what you need, you can purchase the regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles at the drug stores everywhere. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

several days. There is much to place in order here. When the relief comes, I must help the men to make things shipshape. Meanwhile, Stanhope—or Constance, whom you can take into your confidence—will smooth the way——"

"No, sir," interrupted Pyne, even more emphatically. "When you come to know my uncle you will find that he plays the game all the time. If Enid is to be given a new parent the old one will make the gift. And that's a fact."

Brand waived the point.

The girls have plenty to endure here without having this surprise sprung on them," he said. "I will write to Mr. Traill, and leave events ashore in his hands."

So, for a night and the better part of a day, the pillar locked in its recesses some new doubts and cogitations. As between the two men a stronger bond of sympathy was created. Pyne, in those restless hours, was admirably tactful. He talked a great deal of his uncle. Soon, not only Brand, but the two girls, seemed to be well acquainted with a man they had never met.

With the morning tide the anarchy of the waves ceased. The children were brought to the lantern to witness a more majestic sight than the arrival of the "milkman." With the dawn the sun appeared, and the seas seemed to sink into long-deferred slumber under his potency.

The flood-tide of the afternoon brought the unfailing tug, towing the Penzance lifeboat. The crane was swung out and Jack Stanhope, as was his right, was first to be hoisted to the entrance and to exchange a hearty hand grip with Brand.

Behind the lighthouse keeper were ranged many faces, but not that which the sailor sought.

"Where is Enid?" he asked, after the first words of congratulation were spoken. "Have you told her?"

"No. Here is Mr. Pyne. He will take you to the girls, and tell you what we have decided."

The two young men looked at each other with frank friendliness.

"When we have a minute to spare you must take me to the gallery and explain just how you worked that trick." said Stanhope. "Brand's semaphore was to the point, but it omitted details."

"That is where I have the pull, of you," responded Pyne with equal cordiality. "I don't require any telling about your work yesterday."

"Oh, people make such a fuss. What is there remarkable in guiding a boat through a rough sea?"

"I may be wrong, but it looks a heap harder than swarming up a pole."

In such wise did young Britain and young America pooh-pooh the idea that they had done aught heroic.

Indeed, their brief talk dealt next with Enid, and Lieutenant Stanhope, R. N., did not think he was outraging conventionality when he found Enid in the kitchen, and took her in his arms and kissed her.

Constance and Pyne discovered that the tug as seen through the window was a very interesting object.

"You don't feel at all lonesome?" he murmured to her.

"Not in the least."

"It must do fellow a heap of good to meet his best girl under such circumstances."

"Mr. Stanhope and my sister have been the greatest of friends for years."

"Is it possible to catch up? The last few days on the rock ought to figure high in averages."

"Jack," cried Constance, finding this direct attack somewhat disconcerting, "did my father say that any arrangements were to be made for landing?"

"Yes, miss," interposed a sailor at the door. "The skipper's orders are: 'Women an' children to muster on the lower deck.'"

Then began a joyous yet strangely pathetic procession, headed by Elsie and Mamie, who were carried downstairs by the newly arrived lighthouse men. The children cried and refused to be comforted until Pyne descended with them to the lifeboat. The women followed in terrible plight, notwithstanding the wraps sent them on the previous day. Each, as they passed Stephen Brand, bade him farewell with tearfully asked the Lord to bless him and his.

Among them came Mrs. Vansittart. Her features were veiled more closely than ever. Whilst she stood behind the others in the entrance, her glance was fixed immovably on Brand's face. No Sybilline prophetess could have striven more eagerly to wrest the secrets of his soul from its lineaments. Nevertheless, when he turned to her with his pleasant smile and parting words of comfort, she averted her eyes, uttered an incoherent phrase of thanks for his kindness, and seemed to be unduly terrified by the idea that she must be swung into the lifeboat by the crane.

She held out her hand. It was cold and trembling.

"Don't be afraid," he said gently, patting her on the shoulder as one might reassure a timid child. "Sit down and hold the rope. The basket cannot possibly be over turned.

Pyne, helping to unload the tremulous passengers beneath, noted the lady's attitude, and added a fresh memorandum to the stock he had already accumulated. "Who is that?" asked Brand from the purser, who stood beside him.

"Mrs. Vansittart."

Brand experienced a momentary surprise.

"She seemed to avoid me," he thought, but the incident did not linger in his mind.

The lifeboat, rising and falling on the strong and partly broken swell, required the most expert management if the weary people on the rock were to be taken off in safety.

When Constance and Enid, followed by Stanhope, reached the boat after giving Brand a farewell hug, there was no more room. The crew pulled off towards the waiting vessel, and here a specially prepared gangway rendered the work of transhipment easy.

Mr. Traill was leaning over the bulwark as the lifeboat ranged alongside. He singled out Pyne at once, and gave him a cheery cry of recognition. At first he could not distinguish Mrs. Vansittart, and, indeed, it must be confessed that he was striving most earnestly to descry one face which had come back to him out of the distant years.

When his glance fell on Enid, his nephew, who was thinking how best to act under the circumstances, was assured that the father saw in the girl the living embodiment of her mother.

He thought it would bo so. His own recollection of his aunt's portraits had already helped him to this conclusion, and how much more startling must a flesh and blood creation be than the effort of an artist to place on canvas the fugitive expression which constitutes the greatest charm of a mobile countenance.

Enid, having heard so much about Mr. Pyne's uncle, was innocently curious to meet him. At first she was vaguely bewildered. The sunken eyes were fixed on hers with an intensity that gave her a momentary sense of embarrassment. Luckily the exigencies of the hour offered slight scope to emotion. All things were unreal, out of drawing with previous experiences of her well ordered life. The irregular swaying of the boat and the tug seemed to typify the new phase.

Pyne swung himself to the steamer's deck before the gangway was made fast, thereby provoking a loud outcry from the deserted children.

Grasping his uncle's hand he said: "Wait until you read Brand's letter. No one else knows."

So, Mr. Traill, with fine self-control, greeted Mrs. Vansittart affectionately, and handed her over to a stewardess, who took her to a cabin specially prepared for her. Her low-spoken words were not quite what he expected.

"Don't kiss me," she murmured, "and please don't look at me. In my present condition I cannot bear it."

Relatives of the shipwrecked passengers and crew, many of whom were waiting in Penzance, were not allowed on board. This arrangement was made by Mr. Traill, after consulting a local committee organized to help the unfortunates who needed help so greatly. The unanimous opinion was expressed that a few lady members of the committee, supplied with an abundance of clothing, etc., would afford prompt relief to the sufferers, whilst the painful scenes which must follow the meeting of survivors with their friends would cause confusion and delay on the vessel.

Pyne, watching all things, saw that Mrs. Vansittart did not meet his uncle with the eagerness of a woman restored to the arms of the man she was about to marry.

She was distraught, aloof in her manner, apparently interested only in his eager assurance that she would find an assortment of new garments in the cabin.

The millionaire himself was too flustered to draw nice distinctions between the few words she spoke and what he expected her to say. When she quitted him he walked towards the group of young people. They were laughingly exchanging news and banter as if all that had gone before were the events of a lively picnic. At last, he met Enid.

Pyne introduced his uncle, and it was a trying experience for this man to stand face to face with his daughter. In each quick flash of her delighted eyes, in every tone of her sweet voice, in every winsome smile and graceful gesture, he caught and vivified long-dormant memories of his greatly loved wife of nineteen years ago.

Somehow he was glad Mrs. Vansittart had not lingered by his side. The discovery of Enid's identity involved considerations so complex and utterly unforeseen that he needed time and anxious thought to arrange his plans for the future.

The animated bustle on deck prevented anything in the nature of sustained conversation. Luckily, Mr. Traill himself, whose open-handed generosity had made matters easy for the reception committee, was in constant demand.

Mrs. Sheppard had sent a portmanteau for Constance and Enid, so they, too, soon scurried below with the others.

The lifeboat returned to the rock, where the four lighthouse men sent to relieve Brand were now helping the sailors to carry the injured men downstairs and assisting the sick to reach the entrance.

As soon as the second batch was transferred to the tug, the vessel started for Penzance; the Trinity tender would land the others.

There was a scene of intense enthusiasm when the steamer reached the dock. The vociferous cheering of the townspeople smothered the deep agony of some who waited there, knowing all too well they would search in vain for their loved ones among these whom death had spared.

The two girls modestly escaped at the earliest moment from the shed used as a reception room. All the inhabitants knew them personally or by sight; they attracted such attention that they gladly relinquished to other hands any further charge of the shipwrecked people. So, after a few words of farewell for the hour, Stanhope piloted them to a waiting carriage and drove away with them.

Mrs. Vansittart did not emerge from her cabin until the deck was deserted. She found Mr. Traill looking for her. In a neat black dress and feather hat she was rehabilitated.

"Why didn't you show up earlier?" he asked in good-humored surprise. "The breeze on deck was first-rate. It brought the color into many a pale cheek. And the way in which the crowd let itself go was splendid. Look at these waiting thousands—quivering yet with excitement!"

"I am worn out," she said quietly; "take me to your hotel. You have engaged rooms there I suppose?"

"Of course."

"When do you purpose leaving Penzance?"

"Well—er—that is part of the explanation I promised you."

"We can talk matters over in the hotel. Where is your nephew?"

For the first time he marked her air of constraint.

"Believe me, Etta," he said hurriedly, "that what I have to tell you will come as a great surprise, but it should be a very pleasant one."

"Anything that gratifies you will be welcomed by me," she said simply. "You have not said where Charlie is."

"Hiding in that shed. He refused Mr. Stanhope's offer of a rig-out on board. In his present disguise he passes as a stoker, and everybody wants to see the man who saved all of you."

"Have you a closed carriage here?"

"Yes."

"Let us go. Charlie can come with us."

Again he was conscious of a barrier between them, but he attributed her mood to the strain she had undergone.

In the shed they found Pyne; with him were the orphaned children; there was none to meet them. Kind offers were made to care for them until their relations should be forthcoming, but the man to whom they clung would not listen to any such proposal.

"I guess they're happy with me," he said. "I will see them through their present trouble."

Child-like, they had eyes and ears only for the prevalent excitement. At last Elsie asked him:

"Where's mamma? You said she was sick. But the men haven't carried her off the ship, an' she wasn't in the boat."

"Don't you worry, Elsie," he said. "I'm going to take you to a big house where you will find everything fixed just right."

His uncle and Mrs. Vansittart approached. The lady's face was no longer hidden.

"What are you going to do with those children?" she inquired.

"There's none here to claim them," he said. "I can't let them leave me in that haphazard way."

"Let me help you. It is a woman's privilege."

She stooped toward the tiny mites.

"You dear little babes," she said softly. "I can take mother's place for a time."

They knew her quite well, of course, and she seemed to be so much kinder and nicer now in her smart clothes than she was in the crowded disorder of the bedroom.

Mamie looked at Elsie, and the self-reliant Elsie said valiantly:

"Mamie 'n'me 'll be glad, if Mr. Pyne comes too."

Mr. Traill, who had never before seen tears in Mrs. Vansittart's eyes, found a ready excuse for her womanly sympathy.

"It seems to me," he said genially, "we are all of one mind. Come this way, Etta. And mind you stick close to us, Charlie, or the hall porter will throw you out if you attempt to enter the hotel in that costume."

He rattled on cheerfully, telling them how clothiers and milliners, and all the storekeepers in the town if they were needed, would wait on them at the hotel.

"In a couple of hours," he said, "you both can obtain sufficient things to render you presentable for a day or two. Don't forget we dine at eight. We ought to be a jolly party. I have asked Stanhope and his mother and those two girls to join us."

"Oh," cried Mrs. Vansittart faintly, "you must excuse me. I ——"

"Now, Etta, my dear, you will not desert us tonight. Why, it seemed to me to be the only way in which we could all come together at once. I am only too sorry that Mr. Brand cannot be present. Surely he might have been spared from further duty at the lighthouse after what he has endured."

"They offered to relieve him at once, but he declined," said Pyne.

He looked out of the window of the carriage in which they were driving to the hotel. Constance had told him of the dinner arrangement, but he wished to ascertain if the definite absence of the lighthouse keeper would tend to reassure Mrs. Vansittart.

He was not mistaken. She did not reply at once. When she spoke it was with a sigh of relief.

"I will not be very entertaining, I fear, but the young people will have plenty to tell you."

"For goodness sake, Etta, don't class yourself among the old fogies," cried Mr. Traill. "Look at me, fifty-five and lively as a grasshopper."

"Please, is Mamie 'n' me 'vited, too?" whispered Elsie to Pyne.

"You two chicks will be curled up among the feathers at eight o'clock," he told her. "Don't you go and worry 'bout any dinner parties. The sooner you go to sleep, the quicker you'll wake up in the morning, and then we're going out to hunt—for what, do you think?"

"Candies," said Mamie.

"Toys," cried Elsie, going one better.

"We're just going to find two of the loveliest and frilliest and pinkiest-cheeked dolls you ever saw. They'll have blue eyes as big as yours, Elsie, and their lips will be as red and round as yours, Mamie. They'll talk and say—and say all sorts of things when you pinch their little waists. So you two hurry up after you've had your supper, say your prayers and close your eyes, and when you open them you'll be able to yell for me to find that doll store mighty sharp."

"Say, Charlie," cried his uncle, "I never heard you reel off a screw like that before. Now, if I didn't know you were a confirmed young bachelor, I would begin to have suspicions. Anyhow, here's the hotel.

Two hours later, when uncle and nephew met in the private sitting room were busy waiters were making preparations for dinner, Traill drew the younger man to the privacy of a window recess.

"Charlie," he confided, "affairs are in a tangle. Do you realize that my marriage was fixed for today?"

"That's so," was the laconic answer.

"Of course the wedding was postponed by fate, and, to add to my perplexities, there is a new attitude on Mrs. Vansittart's part. It puzzles me. We have been friends for some years, as you know. It seemed to be a perfectly natural outcome of our mutual liking for each other that we should agree to pass our declining years together. She is a very beautiful and accomplished woman, but she makes no secret of her age, and the match was a suitable one in every respect.

"You can see as far through a stone wall as most people."

Pyne knew that his uncle's sharp eyes were regarding him steadily, but he continued to gaze into the street.

There was a moment's hesitation before Mr. Traill growled:

"You young dog, you have seen it, too. Mrs. Vansittart avoids me. Something has happened. She has changed her mind. Do you think she has heard about Edith?"

"Edith! Oh, of course—Enid must be christened afresh. No; that isn't it. It would not be fair to you to say that I think you are mistaken. But, from what I know of the lady, I feel sure she will meet you fairly when the time comes."

"Ah, you agree with me, then?"

"In admitting a doubt—in advising the delay you have already suggested —yes."

"She told you that I had written?"

"More than that, she asked me if I was aware of its explanation."

"And you said?"

"Exactly what I said to you. You are both sensible people. I can hardly imagine that any misunderstanding can exist after an hour's talk."

Mr. Traill looked at his watch. A carriage stopped at the hotel.

"Here's Stanhope and his mother," cried Pyne; so his uncle hurried off to receive his guests.

Lady Margaret was a well-preserved woman of aristocratic pose. But her serenity was disturbed. Although the land was ringing with the fame of her son's exploit, and her mother's heart was throbbing with pride, there had been tearful hours of vigil for her. Not without a struggle had she abandoned her hope that he would make a well-endowed match.

When Constance and Enid arrived she was very stately and dignified, scrutinizing, with all a mother's incredulity, the girl who had caused her to capitulate.

But Enid scored a prompt success. She swept aside the almost unconscious reserve with which Jack's mother greeted her.

"You knew," she murmured wistfully. "We did not. They would not tell us. How you must have suffered until the news came that he had escaped."

Lady Margaret drew the timid girl nearer and kissed her.

"My dear," she whispered, "I am beginning to understand why Jack loves you. He is my only son, but you are worthy of him."

Mrs. Vansittart's appearance created a timely diversion. She had obtained a black lace dress. It accentuated the settled pallor of her face, but she was perfectly self-possessed, and uttered a nice womanly compliment to the two girls, who wore white demi-toilette costumes.

"Your look delightful," she said. "When all is said and done, we women should never despise our wardrobe. That marvelous lighthouse had one grave defect in my eyes. It was dreadfully callous to feminine requirements."

Here was a woman rejuvenated, restored to her natural surroundings. They accounted for the subtle change in her by the fact that they had seen her hitherto under unfavorable conditions. Even Pyne, not wholly pleased with her in the past, found his critical judgment yielding when she apologized sweetly to Lady Margaret for her tardiness.

"There were two children saved from the wreck. Poor little mites, how they revelled in a hot bath! I could not leave them until they were alsleep."

"I needed two hot baths," said Pyne. "No. 1 dug me out of the shell, and No. 2 helped me to recognize myself."

During dinner there was much to tell and to hear. Mrs. Vansittart said little, save to interpose a word now and then when Constance or Enid would have skimmed too lightly the record of their own services.

They did not hurry over the meal. All were in the best possible spirits, and the miseries of the Gulf Rock might never have existed for this lively company were it not that four among them bore clear tokens of the deprivations they endured.

A waiter interrupted their joyous chatter at its highest. He bent over Mr. Traill and discreetly conveyed some communication.

"I am delighted," cried the millionaire heartily. "Show him in at once."

He rose from his chair to do honor to an unexpected guest.

"You will all be pleased to hear," he explained, "that Mr. Brand is ashore and has come to see us."

Mrs. Vansittart stifled the cry on her lips. The slight color which had crept into her pale cheeks yielded to a deathly hue. It chanced that the others were looking expectantly towards the door and did not notice her.

Brand entered. In acknowledging Mr. Traill's cordial welcome he smilingly explained his presence.

"My superiors sent me emphatic orders to clear out," he said, "so I had no option but to obey. I conveyed Mr. Emmett to suitable quarters and hastened home, but found that the girls were playing truant. My housekeeper insisted that I should eat, else she would not be satisfied that I still lived, but I came here as quickly as possible."

At that instant his glance, traveling from one to another of those present, fell on Mrs. Vansittart.

He stood as one petrified. The kindly words of his host, the outspoken glee of the girls at his appearance, died away in his ears in hollow echoes. His eyes, frowning beneath wrinkled brows, seemed to ask if he were not the victim of some unnerving hallucination. They were fixed on Mrs. Vansittart's face with an all-absorbing intensity, and his set lips and clenched hands showed how utterly irresistible was the knowledge that, indeed, he was not deceived—that he was gazing at a living, breathing personality, and not at some phantom product of a surcharged brain.

She, too, yielding before the suddenness of an ordeal she had striven to avoid, betrayed by her laboring bosom that she was under the spell of some excitement of overwhelming power.

She managed to gain her feet. The consciousness that Constance, Enid, Lady Margaret even, were looking at her and at Brand with amazed anxiety served to strengthen her for a supreme effort.

"Mr. Stephen Brand—and I—are old acquaintances," she gasped. "He may misunderstand—my presence here —tonight. Indeed—in this instance— I am not to blame. I could not—help myself. I am always—trying to explain—but somehow—I never succeed. Oh!"

With an agonized sigh she swayed listlessly and would have fallen had not Pyne caught her.

But she was desperately determined not to faint—there. This was her world, the world of society. She would not yield in its presence.

Her eyes wandered vaguely, helplessly, from the face of the man towards the others. Constance had hastened to her assistance, and the knowledge that this was so seemed to stimulate her to a higher degree. With fine courage she grasped the back of a chair and summoned a wan smile to her aid.

"You will forgive me—if I leave you," she murmured. "I am so tired —so very tired."

She walked resolutely towards the door. Brand drew aside that she might pass. He looked at her no more. His wondering daughter saw that big drops of perspiration stood on his forehead.

Mr. Traill, no less astonished than

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Not a cent in advance—not a penny, remember, until you, yourself, can freely and unhesitatingly say, "I am well again!"

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I want to get—and must in some way get, everybody, everywhere, to fully and completely understand what I myself now absolutely know, about this unsurpassed prescription. The remedy is surely remarkable—then why not the offer? Every Druggist nearly, in America, whether located in hamlet or city, has been, and is now freely selling at $1.00 per bottle, Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy. And yet, strange to say, not one sufferer perhaps in a hundred, even knows as yet of the remedy and its power to battle against pain. To stir to awaken these unknowing ones, to spread the knowledge of what this prescription can do, I shall broadly publish this offer, these facts, unrestricted and everywhere. Having no fear of the final outcome. I shall unhesitatingly tell of my plan to all.

Reader, you that are well and happy, do an act of humanity. Tell some tortured and suffering one that there is yet one way to health—one way entirely free from risk, or of money loss.

For a complete cure I charge $10.00, for I must strike a fair-to-all average price. It is true that many will be cured with a bottle or two of my remedy, but chronic, exceedingly deep-seated and difficult cases, may require ten; twenty, or even a greater number. He, I believe, who has actually suffered the pangs of real Rheumatism, will hardly complain of the price when cured, because perchance, but two or three bottles are needed in his particular case.

But to secure this "No Cure, No Pay" privilege, you must write me personally. Simply address Dr. Shoop, Contract R, Racine, Wis. Box 7828.

Do not trouble your druggist, please, about this plan. He has no authority, nor will he furnish my medicine, except to sell it at retail, bottle by bottle. Write me instead today for my "Contract F" agreement. I will also send my Book on Rheumatism free, or if you please, medical advice and book on other diseases.

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Book 1 on Dyspepsia, Book 3 the Kidneys,
Book 2 on the Heart, Book 4 For Women.

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The Sunday School.

A VICTORIOUS ATONEMENT.

The International Sunday School Lesson for December 9 is, "Jesus on the Cross." Luke 23:33-46. The Golden Text is, "Father, Forgive Them, for They Know Not What They Do." Luke 23:34.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

The key to Christianity is a cross. Without the event on Mount Calvary the religion of Jesus in inexplicable. Take that chapter out of its history and all the others lose their significance and vitality. The gospel of Christ is the story of a crucifixion. That simple message is the hammer which breaks down all the walls of opposition. Men may merely admire the philosophy of Jesus, but it is His broken heart that breaks their stony hearts.

The most characteristic phase of the life of Jesus in this scene of the crucifixion, which the Sunday schools study next Sunday. It is typical of his whole career, for He was being crucified through His mission; and into the few terrible days when the gentle, sensitive Son of Mary hung upon the rough beams set up on "the place of a skull" was crowded, for the world to see, the significance of all His thirty-three years.

The Road to Power.

All roads to helpfulness lead over a rocky crest called in the Hebrew, "Golgotha." Sacrifice must precede service. The Scripture truly says that Jesus "must needs have suffered," only so could He have become a Saviour. Sorrow is the one universally comprehended experience, the common lot of mankind. No man enters into the depths of human nature, except through his own broken heart. Only he who is lifted up on some cross draws men unto him. As a recent magazine quatrain suggestively called "Credentials" puts it thus:

"I preach the Word. Why then that hiss?
And why God's message laughed to scorn?
Your cheek hath known no Judas kiss,
And your brow no crown of thorns."

It was only shame that the rabble saw in the dreadful spectacle upon the central one of those three crosses; had their eyes been open they would have beheld sovereignty there. Pilate might well say—though all unconprehendingly—"What I have written, I have written," concerning the inscription, "This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." For this supreme act of sacrifice and service, this ultimate pouring out of His soul unto death, is the true sceptre of Christ's kingliness. And this mark of the Lord Jesus must be upon the church, if she is to prevail over the world. For a cross on her steeple, but the cross in her spirit is the sign of a church's serviceableness.

A Tragedy's Saddest Side.

What was the keenest suffering of the Man who hung suspended there in agony until His heart broke? Not His own pain; physical pain cannot crush a great soul. Not the shame of it; He was above the power of men's opinion. Not the ending of His life, though life was sweet to this young man, as to every other. Not defeat, for He knew that He was on the way to a victory great enough to satisfy His all-embracing love.

The pang which farily rent His heart was that His people whom He had lavishly served, and passionately loved could do such a deed. Not for Himself, but for the state of heart that could make possible so foul an act, and in the name of religion, did He grieve. Therein, then, we see the significance of the cry, "Father, forgive them; they know not what they do." He is truly Christ-like who grieves less over a wrong done to himself, than over the sin of the wrongdoer. Such was the magnanimous spirit of the Crucified. Man's sin was the Redeemer's sorrow.

A Great Man Among Little Men.

Even crude souls catch the pathos of the plight of Napoleon on the Island of St. Helena, when subjected to the petty indignities and insults and slights of a small-souled official. The littleness and coarseness of his jailer was the worst punishment for the great soldier with a world-conquering spirit. Pilate, the politician, the pettyfogging Pharisees, the pitiless priests, the purblind populace—these were the setting of the tragedy of Calvary. Of such as these the great and sensitive Jesus was made the sport. By the rough and ribald soldiers His delicate flesh was beaten. To the accompaniment of their jeers and coarse laughter and taunts He was driven forth beneath the heavy load of the crossed timbers that finally crushed Him to earth. Truly, it was the refinement of cruelty, the very ingeunity of the pit. Wherever a fine spirit is the victim of grosser ones there is some understanding of this experience of the Saviour.

When the cross, with its heavy burden nailed upon it, was finally dropped into its socket, with a wrench that must have racked every nerve fiber in the sensitive body, a number of soldiers kept watch before it. Utterly blind to the significance of the world's supremest tragedy which was being enacted before their eyes, they gambled over the spoils of the victim. They were witnesses of a scene that shook heaven and earth, and that stopped all the world's clocks, destroyed its old calendars, and gave a new birth to time. Yet these men gnawed away, with rude jest and laughter and quarrelsomeness. So does the ruling passion of a life intrude itself into the most sacred scenes. Who does not know how, even when on his knees in prayer, there intrudes into his mind thoughts that engross him at other hours, and that are altogether alien to the spirit of devotion?

Yet even these Roman soldiers, like Pilate, and the priests, and the Pharisees, and the people, were fulfilling the divine prophecy. God's will will be done by us, or else in spite of us. Jesus was the willing agent of the Father's will; the other participants in the great tragedy were ignorant of that will or unwilling to do it. But the will of God was done, as it must always be done, despite all the machinations of men and devils.

Comrades of the Cross.

Nothing outside of himself can really shame or injure a man. It was no humiliation to Jesus to die with the malefactors on either side of Him. He was above such a petty thought; and even so dying He was given an opportunity to minister, which was the ruling passion of His lift. He willingly makes himself a comrade of every man on a cross, or of every man bearing a cross. For the sake of being best Brother to men, He is willing to pay any price; suffering is not too high a price for sympathy. Jesus is history's great Sharer.

And He still covets comradeship. The women at the foot of the cross were a comfort unspeakable to the dying Saviour. Then, as is always the case, it was woman who was man's support in his extremety. Paradoxically, God has made the weaker sex to be the stronger's final strength and support. Womanhood's queenliest crown came to her that dark day, amid noontide blackness and rending skies, when the little band of women stood loyally by their crucified Friend.

Jesus still wants comrades of the cross—disciples who know the fellowship of suffering. No sorrow, no sacrifice, no shame can be too great to bring one into a comprehending communion with the crucified Christ. The exceeding great reward of all who suffer in any degree as He suffered is that they come to know Him and to be known of Him. All who are closest to the risen, present Christ, and who irradiate His power, have been with Him on Calvary.

The End of It All.

Few events are final, most are but means to an end. The cross was not Christ's extinction but his coronation. In itself its endurance would not have been justifiable, the "penitentes" of Mexico, who suffer for suffering's sake, have not entered deeply into the true meaning of the cross. The symbolism of the cross is sacrifice as a means to service. The Lord's ministry to His mother in His last hour was typical, the crucifixion comprehends an all and great service.

Mary saw in that hour what the angel announcer had meant when he declared: "Thou shalt call His name Jesus; because He shall save His people from their sins." It was only that he might atone for the world's sinning that the Just died for the unjust. This terrible tragedy would be as "idle as a painted ship upon a painted ocean" without it were a victorious atonement for the sins of men.

Under an Eastern sky,
Amid a rabble cry
A man went forth to die
For me!

Thorn-crowned His blessed Head,
Blood-stained His weary tread,
Cross-laden He was led
For me!

Pierced were His hands and feet,
Three hours o'er Him beat
Fierce rays of noon-tide heat
For me!

FAD FOR ANTIQUE JEWELS

Old Knickknacks Give an Air of Distinction to Wearer.

To counterbalance the craze for gaudy French jewelry comes the fad for antique gewgaws.

If you have an old pair of pendant "drop" earrings or a brooch that has been in the family for generations, count them as precious possessions.

Women who do not own such heirlooms are eagerly seeking them in the antique shops, for there is an air of distinction about the queer old knickknacks that lends refinement to the wearer.

Bizarre does not express the appearance of some of these pieces—huge breastpins of jet, massive bracelets and necklaces that are almost barbaric as to weight and size of stones, but fascinating in their very ugliness.

All the old-time semi-precious stones that were worn fifty years ago or longer have become popular again.

These pins were originally tartan pins, used to fasten the plaid to the shoulder. The center settings are cairngorm stones, the yellow or smoky brown rock crystal that is famous in Scotland.

In the list of semi-precious stones are a score that belong to the crystalline quartz variety, such as rose and smoky quartz, beautiful stones, the former almost rivaling the opal in brilliance.

Should you be fortunate enough to come across any odd pieces of jewelry it may be worth while to identify the stones, for, although they belong only to the semi-precious class, they have great intrinsic worth.

In addition to the stones named there are some other well-known kinds. Jade has always been looked on as a lucky stone, possibly from the fact that it was anciently used as a supposed cure for many ills.

Bloodstone, the plainest, yet most gorgeous, of the semi-precious stones is hematite or bloodstone, an ore or iron. It is named bloodstone because of the crimson stream that it gives off when being shaped on a grindstone.

In color it is a somber metallic black, with a luster that is indescribable. Nothing could be richer than a plain silver necklace strung with hematite pendants cut in cabuchon or cushion shape; that is, with a flat and a rounded side.

Contrary to general belief, the stones that are used in the old-fashioned jewelry of today are not all genuinely antique.

Old-time vinaigrettes in the shape of horns, snuffboxes and other oddities are worn pendant from chains by women of taste. The more tarnished and battered the article the greater its value, of course, as an antique.

Several decades ago it was the fashion for women to wear belts of sterling silver wire woven into a fabric. Such belts were the forerunners of the tinsel fabrics seen today. They are very rare, indeed, but when seen can easily be distinguished from an up-to-date gaudy belt at a glance.

Many old necklaces of this description are being worn as girdles, but the greater proportion are still in favor for their original use.

The difference between a real piece of antique jewelry and its modern counterpart is not difficult to distinguish. All the old silversmiths worked by hand. There were no such things as dies and stamps in those days, and each piece of jewelry was a work of art in itself.

In repousee work—hammering—and in chased designs—cutting out engraving—the charm lies in the irregularity of the design. The unmistakable signs of hand-wrought work are apparent, meaning at once greater value than if the piece were stamped out by a machine.

It cannot be denied that antique jewelry has a charm all its own. Its simplicity spells elegance and refinement. French jewelry of the better grade is by no means to be despised, as it represents a very high development of artistic taste.

Real Optimism.

"Paulding is one of the most optimistic fellows I ever saw."

"Yes. I was crossing a bridge with him the other day, when his hat blew into the river. As he leaned over the rail and saw his derby floating down the stream he cheerfully said: 'By George, Isn't it lucky that I've never got into the habit of carrying my commutation ticket under my hat band?' "—Chicago Record-Herald.

SCOFFERS

Often Make the Staunchest Converts.

The man who scoffs at an idea or doctrine which he does not fully understand has at least the courage to show where he stands.

The gospel of Health has many converts who formerly laughed at the idea that coffee and tea, for example, ever hurt anyone. Upon looking into the matter seriously, often at the suggestion of a friend, such persons have found that Postum Food Coffee and a friend's advice have been their salvation.

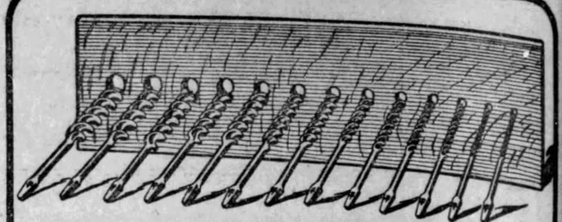
"My sister was employed in an eastern city where she had to do calculating," writes an Okla. girl. "She suffered with headache until she was almost unfitted for duty.

"Her landlady persuaded her to quit coffee and use Postum and in a few days she was entirely free from headache. She told her employer about it, and on trying it, he had the same experience.

"My father and I have both suffered much from nervous headache since I can remember, but we scoffed at the idea advanced by my sister, that coffee was the cause of our trouble.

"However, we quit coffee and began using Postum. Father has had but one headache now in four years, due to a severe cold, and I have lost my headaches and sour stomach which I am now convinced came from coffee.

"A cup of good hot Postum is satisfying to me when I do not care to eat a meal. Circumstances caused me to locate in a new country and I feared I would not be able to get my favorite drink, Postum, but I was relieved to find that a full supply is kept here with a heavy demand for it." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a reason."



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The Farmstead

Questions for Answers.

The following questions are submitted to readers to answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

My horses appear to have some kind of an itch. They stand and bite each other nearly all the time. I would like to know what is the matter with them, and what is the remedy?—J., James, Okla.

I have a horse afflicted with something called the lampers. The upper gums project below the upper teeth.

Here is another: Our chickens have swelling of the eyes, and breathe very hard; eyes matter and run. Will somebody please answer?—D., W. Va.

Will someone please tell me how to make cider turn to vinegar? I have had some cider made for some time, and it will not become vinegar.—H., Wise, Pa.

Can anyone tell me how much cement it will require to build one perch of wall?—M., Levels, W. Va.

Will someone please give me a remedy for chicken cholera?—A., Troy, Pa.

I would like to have a recipe to put glass together for an aquarium, for gold fish.—M., Prattsburg, N. Y.

Will some Farmstead reader tell me what will stop the growth of wild hairs in the eyes? I am bothered with them. I have them pulled out, but they reappear.—J., Harbor Creek

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QUESTION BUREAU ?

RULES—1.—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2.—Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions on the same subject, but not different subjects. 3.—The editor of the Bureau is not allowed to give the address of any person or firm, nor answer as to the reliability of any person or firm, nor to tell where you can buy anything or sell anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4.—We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest to a majority of our readers. 5.—We will not answer any questions on religious topics — no questions involving dogma or doctrine, or of Biblical interpretation; no prices of old coins or stamps; no arithmetical or grammatical questions. 6.—Don't ask replies by mail. If a question is of general interest to our readers, we will reply in print, but never by mail.

The G. A. R.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please tell me all you can about the Grand Army of the Republic.—I. W. K., Owassa, Mich.

The organization of the Grand Army of the Republic was worked up in Illinois in the winter of 1865-6, by Dr. B. F. Stephenson and Rev. W. J. Rudolph, the surgeon and the chaplain of the 14th Illinois infantry. The first post was organized at Decatur, Ills., April 6, 1866. The first national encampment was held at Indianapolis November 6, 1866. Its assigned objects are fraternity, commemoration and assistance among the above classes. The number of Grand Army posts June 30, 1905, was 6,031. The Woman's Relief Corps is auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic. This organization was created by the mothers, wives, daughters, and sisters of Union soldiers of the civil war of 1861-5, for the purpose of aiding and assisting the Grand Army of the Republic. The year ending June 30, 1905, the organization had 35 departments, which are subdivided into corps as well as detached corps, in several states, where no departments exist. There are 2,978 corps, with a membership of 152,233.

Dallas, Texas.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please tell me what you can about the city of Dallas, Tex., its parks, etc.?—E. H., Edwardsburg, Mich.

In 1900, according to the federal census, Dallas had a population of 42,638; in 1903 the population was estimated at 65,000. The city is the county seat of Dallas county, on the Trinity river, and on the Missouri, Kansas & Texas, the Texas & New Orleans, the Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe, the Texas & Pacific, and the Houston & Texas Central railroads. The city is in fertile agricultural region, the chief products of which are cotton, wheat, corn and fruit. Its principal manufacturing industry is saddlery, in which Dallas leads all other places in the United States. Cotton gin machinery is also extensively manufactured. Other prominent manufactories are flour mills, brewery, various iron and metal works, cotton gins, grain elevators, lumber mills, woolen mills, cottonseed oil mills, and ice compressers. The wholesale trade of the city in one year has reached as high as $50,000,000.

The city's public free school system embraces twelve white and five colored schools, in which 8,000 pupils attend, two parish schools and seven business schools. Other schools are St. Mary's Female college, Ursuline academy, Academy of the Sacred Heart, St. Matthew's Grammar school, Southwestern university, Baylor university, Dallas Medical, Patton Female seminary, Landon Conservatory of Music, several business colleges and special and private schools. The city has a Carnegie public library, which cost $50,000. Dallas is the see of the Roman Catholic and the Protestant Episcopal dioceses, and the official home of the bishops of the Methodist Episcopal church (South). The number of church edifices are Baptists, 12; Catholic, 7; Christian 6; Congregational, 4; Episcopal, 6; Evangelical, 3; Methodist, 12; Hebrew, 3; Presbyterian, 10; Christian Scientist, Seventh Day Adventist and Unitarian, 1 each; colored churches of various denominations number 20. The state headquarters of the Salvation Army are located here. The city has a number of charitable institutions. The city has six parks and nine cemeteries. The national banks number five.

Apples.

Editor Question Bureau: Kindly state where and when apples were first discovered, and by whom.—E. E. G., Hoh, Wash.

The apple is a native of southern Europe and contiguous Asia, whence it has been spread as a cultivated plant to all temperate climates of the globe, having been more or less hybridized with its close relative, the Siberian crab. According to Pliny, the Romans had 22 varieties of apples. Ray reckons 78 varieties in his day (1683). The apple tree is mentioned in the Bible, and also the fruit of this tree, but writers cannot agree as to what this fruit denoted. The quince has some arguments in its favor; also the citron. But neither the quince nor the citron nor the apple appears fully to answer to all the Scriptural allusions, so that the question of identification must be left an open one.

Achilles Tendon.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please state the origin of the name Achilles tendon. — S. H. R., Rapp's Mill, Va.

The name Achilles tendon is accounted for in fable. It is that Thetis, the mother of Achilles, held him by that part when she dipped him in the river Styx to make him invulnerable. It is the strong and powerful tendon of the heel, which is formed by the junction of divers muscles, and which extends from the calf to the heel.

Wedding Anniversaries.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you kindly give wedding anniversaries?—Every fifth year.—M. E. B., Gould, W. Va.

Here they are again: Fifth, wooden; tenth, tin; fifteenth, crystal; twentieth, china; twenty-fifth, silver; thirtieth, cotton; thirty-fifth, linen; fortieth, woolen; forty-fifth, silk; fiftieth, golden; seventy-fifth, diamond.

Farragut at Mobile Bay.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please tell how many men Admiral Farragut lost in the battle of Mobile Bay?—T. A. C., Bridgeport, Ill.

Of the members of Farragut's fleet 52 were killed, 170 wounded and 130 drowned in the Tecumseh, which was sunk by a torpedo.

Wars of Colonial Virginia.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please give an account of the battles in Virginia following the massacres of 1622-44?—P. S. F. P., Alliria, Ark.

In 1622 occurred a bloody war between the colonists of Virginia and the Indian tribes led by Opechancanough, the brother and successor of Powhatan. On the night of March 22, 350 persons were massacred, and in a brief period Indian murders, sickness and famine reduced the number of the colonists from 4,000 to 2,500. In 1624 the colony passed under the direct charge of the crown. Its condition at this time was not prosperous, tobacco being the only article of export which paid a profit. In 1630 a fort was built at Point Comfort. In 1632 the laws of the colony were revised and consolidated, and, though occasionally troubled by the Indians, and by vicious and vagabond colonists, it seems to have maintained a fair share of prosperity for a number of years. In 1641 Sir William Berkeley became governor, and being a staunch loyalist, soon come into collision with the parliament. The colony remained firm in its adherence to the Stuarts till March, 1652, when an English fleet, which had been sent to Barbados to reduce that island to submission visited the Chesapeake, and arranged terms of capitulation with the loyalists; and Berkeley's commission being declared void, Richard Bennet, a Puritan settler in Maryland, became governor. On the restoration of Charles II. Sir William Berkeley returned and was elected governor. The right of suffrage, which had been almost universal during the protectorate, was limited by act of 1671 to freeholders and householders, not so much from pressure of the royal authorities as from the aristocratic views of the prominent planters. The code of the colonial laws was again reversed in 1662, and the Church of England established and severe laws were passed against nonconformists, Quakers and Anabaptists. The rapacity of the courtiers of Charles II., upon two of whom, Arlington and Culpeper, he had bestowed a patent of the Virginia colony, and the heavy taxation encouraged for his own purpose by Sir William Berkeley, led to great discontent, which in 1676, on the occasion of a levy of fresh taxes to provide against a threatened attack from the Indians, culminated in what is known as "Bacon's rebellion." Berkeley met with large pecuniary losses in this rebellion, and when it was finally quelled he was so relentless in his vengeance on all who had participated in it as to bring down upon himself the royal displeasure. In the winter of 1677 he visited England to justify his conduct, but died before he having an interview with the king. In 1754 hostilities broke out with the French, who had built a line of military posts along the western slope of the Alleghanies and at the headwater of the Ohio; and in this war George Washington first entered the service of his country, commanding the Colonial troops at the battle of Fort Necessity, and being placed at the head of the Virginia forces after Braddock's defeat in 1755.

In the autumn of 1774 a conflict occurred between the Indians under Logan, Cornstalk and other chiefs, and a Virginia force of about 1,200 men, at Point Pleasant, on the Ohio river. The Indians were defeated, but the Virginians had 60 or 70 killed, and a large number wounded. The Virginia convention, which met at Richmond, March 20, 1775, to appoint delegates to the new continental congress, took measures for enrolling companies of volunteers in each county. April 21 Governor Dunmore ordered the powder belonging to the province to be taken from the public store at Williamsburg and placed on board an iron vessel in the river. Learning this, Patrick Henry collected some companies of volunteers, marched upon Williamsburg, and compelled the king's receiver to give bills for the value of the powder taken away. November 23 Lord Dunmore, with a British and Tory force, took possession of Norfolk. He was driven from it December 3, but in January, 1776, returned with a larger force and bombarded it. He continued a predatory warfare along the Virginia coast through the ensuing summer, but was finally driven southward. In the summer of 1779 the British General Matthews made a descent upon the coast, destroyed Norfolk, took Portsmouth and Gosport, destroying the vessels of war building there, and burned or took 130 merchant vessels on the James and Nansemond rivers. In January, 1781, General Benedict Arnold captured and burned Richmond, then a village of 1,800 inhabitants; but being pressed by the militia under General Steuben and some French frigates in the Chesapeake, he was forced to escape with a few prizes to Newport, R. I. In the spring and summer of the same year Cornwallis and Phillips plundered the greater part of eastern Virginia, seizing and destroying property to the value of not less than $10,000,000. The surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, October 19, 1781, virtually closed the war.

The Keystone State.

Editor Question Bureau: Kindly tell us all about Pennsylvania from its infancy. We never hear of the state in the west except when someone mentions Coal Oil Johnny.—U. B. V., Lompoc, Cal.

One issue of The Blade would be too small to "tell all about" Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania is the keystone of the arch formed by the thirteen original states. It has a land area of 44,985 square miles. The population of the state, in 1900, was 6,302,115. Philadelphia, its largest city, has a population of 1,293,697, or only 191,356 less than the entire population of California, the home of your inquiring friend. The climate of southwestern Pennsylvania is comparatively mild; zero weather is of rare occurrence. The Alleghanies act as wind break and protect the eastern valley from the northwestern cold waves. The lower Delaware is often filled with ice—as it was when Washington crossed it—mostly drift ice from above and, though navigation is sometimes impeded, it is never closed. Above Philadelphia the river is frozen solid about once in four or five years. The cold spell is usually broken by one or two mid-winter thaws. The summer in southeastern Pennsylvania is often above 99 degrees in the middle of the day, and the humidity makes the heat very oppressive. The winters in the central and northern mountain regions are quite rigorous, but the summer temperature is more moderate than that of the southeastern part of the state, owing to the elevation and comparative dryness of the atmosphere. The western part of the state has the climate common to the lower lake regions.

Pennsylvania's chief mineral resource is coal. It contains the largest deposits of anthracite mined anywhere in the whole world. As a coke producer the state ranks even higher relatively than as a coal producer. The soil of the state, except in the mountains, is everywhere fertile, and over large areas of eastern agriculture is suitable for grazing. The southeastern part is excellent for growing cereals. From a very early period Pennsylvania has held the first rank as an iron producer in America. The state ranks first in the production of carpets. As early as the year 1810 Pennsylvania manufactured 107,608 pairs of stockings. In 1900 it ranked first in the tanning and finishing of leather, and it leads all others in the manufacture of glass. The first glass house west of the Alleghanies was built in 1797, at New Geneva, on the Monongahela river, by Albert Gallatin, a man who did not throw stones. More than half the locomotives built in the United States in 1900 were built in the Keystone State. The foundry and machine shop products of that year were valued at $127,292,440. Next to the Clyde in Scotland the Delaware is now the greatest shipbuilding center in the world.

In 1850 Pennsylvania's population was nearly one million more than that of California at the present time. In density of population the state takes sixth place in the union, being 140 to the square mile.

Pennsylvania has been making history a long time, but it has made no mark in it. In 1681 William Penn, who was a bigger man than Coal Oil Johnny, to whom our inquirer has made reference, obtained a grant of land of 40,000 square miles from Charles II, as payment of a debt of £16,000 due to Penn's father, an admiral in the English navy. Penn proposed to found a colony for the benefit of the Quakers. Penn named it Sylvania, but the king prefixed the name Penn. To encourage emigration Penn offered a popular government, with toleration for all religious beliefs. The Dutch and Swedes already had settlements within his grant, but they were incorporated in the new colony. In 1682 Philadelphia was founded from plans drawn in England. Penn established a proprietary government and his wise administration and humane treatment caused the colony to flourish. His rights passed to his heirs, of whom they were purchased in 1776 by the state. Pennsylvania had difficulty with Connecticut over the territory north of latitude 41, which by previous grant had been given to the latter state. In 1776 this region was organized as the county of Westmoreland and was represented in the Connecticut legislature. This quarrel at one time threatened to cause war between the two states, but in 1782 the territory in dispute was given to Pennsylvania by a decision of a federal court. The southern boundary line was surveyed by two English surveyors, Mason and Dixon, in 1763-67. Delaware, which was included in Penn's grant, was erected into a colony by itself (1703) with a legislature of its own, but under the same governor as Pennsylvania. The first Continental Congress met in Philadelphia, September 5, 1774. The Declaration of Independence, the battle of Germantown and Valley Forge identify the state with the revolution. From 1835 to 1884 the electoral votes of Pennsylvania were never cast for an unsuccessful candidate. Since the formation of the Republican party Pennsylvania has been a steadily Republican state. Pennsylvania soldiers to the number of 362,284 fought for the preservation of the union in the civil war. The greatest battle of that conflict was fought on Pennsylvania soil.

Wars of the Roses.

Editor Question Bureau: Please tell something about the Wars of the Roses —C. M. C., Perrysville, O.

The Wars of the Roses is the name given to the protracted struggle between the houses of Lancaster and York for possession of the English throne, in the second half of the fifteenth century. The name comes from the badges adopted by the parties engaged in the contest, a white rose by York and a red rose by Lancaster. The outbreak of the struggle was the result of discontent among the people with the evil fortunes of the war against France and the oppressive taxes necessitated by military expenditures. The imbecile Henry VI. had shown himself quite incapable of the tasks of government, and this served to enhance the power of Richard, Duke of York, the representative of the claims of the house which had been driven from the throne in 1399 in the person of Richard II. The Duke of York's great opponent was Margaret, wife of Henry VI., who possessed much strength of character and marked ability. The first battle of the war was fought in 1455 at St. Albans and resulted in a victory for the Yorkists, whose head became, for the second time, protector of the realm. War broke out again in 1459, and began auspiciously for the Lancastrians. The Duke of York and the Earl of Warwick and Salisbury were compelled to leave the country. But they returned in June, 1460, and defeated the Lancastrian forces at Northampton and took Henry VI. prisoner. A compromise was effected by which Henry was to retain the crown until his death, when it was to pass to the Duke of York. Queen Margaret, however, would not consent to this wrong to her son, and continued the struggle. At Wakefield, December 30, 1460, the Yorkists were defeated and the Duke of York was killed, and soon after the Lancastrians gained a second victory at St. Albans. Edward, Earl of March, the Duke of York's eldest son, joining forces with Warwick, succeeded in getting possession of London, which was a strong supporter of the Yorkist cause, and was elected king, setting out immediately to meet the enemy, on whom he inflicted a bloody defeat at Towton, March 29, 1461. Henry VI. fled to Scotland and the remnants of Lancastrian resistance were crushed out at Hedgley Moor and Hexam, in 1464. A quarrel between Edward IV. and the Earl of Warwick led the latter to embrace the Lancastrian cause. Returning from France with a large force in 1470 he compelled Edward to seek refuge in Holland. Henry VI. was released from captivity and replaced upon the throne. Edward IV., however, returned to England in the early part of 1471, and April 14, decisively defeated Warwick at Barnet, the "kingmaker" himself falling in the fight. May 4 a Lancastrian force under Queen Margaret was overthrown at Tewkesbury and the young prince Edward met his death there, probably by assassination after the battle. Henry VI. died in the tower a few days later and Edward IV. was securely established on the throne. The last battle of the long conflict was fought in 1485, when Henry of Richmond, representative of the Lancastrian claims, overthrew Richard at Bosworth Field and ascended the throne as Henry VII. By his marriage to Elizabeth, the daughter of Edward IV., he united in himself the claims of the rival houses.

Jerome K. Jerome.

Editor Question Bureau: Will you please tell what you can of the English humorist, Jerome K. Jerome?—P. P., Pulaska, Ia.

Jerome Klapka Jerome, the English humorist, was born May 2, 1861. He was at first a clerk in a railway office, afterward an actor, schoolmaster, and journalist by turns. After many discouragements, he succeeded in making a popular hit with his book "On the Stage—and Off," which was published in 1885. This book was largely biographical. "Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow" followed in 1889, and also became popular. The same year "Three Men in a Boat" appeared, and made the author famous in America as well as England. Together with Robert Barr, Jerome edited the "Idler" and "Today" from 1892-7. Jerome has also published a number of successful comedies.

The California Big Tree.

Editor Question Bureau: Please tell something aoout the California Big Tree, size, etc.—M. L. H., Parsons, W. Va.

The Big Tree is the largest and oldest of growing things on earth, averaging 275 feet high and 20 feet in diameter. The largest reach over 325 feet high and 38 feet in diameter, with an age of 5,000 years. Another tree, second only to the Big Tree, is the California redwood, which covers an area of about 2,000 square miles; it reaches 300 feet and diameter. The sugar pine, the noblest pine yet discovered, reaches 245 feet high and 18 feet in diameter.

"Anno Domini."

Editor Question Bureau: I understand that the trial of Jesus Christ took place in April, A. D., 30. This being correct, makes Jesus only 30 years old. I have been taught "Anno Domini" means "in the year of our Lord." Will you explain this to me?—W. P. K., Utica, O.

"Anno Domini" means "in the year of our Lord," but it does not necessarily follow that Jesus Christ was but 30 years of age when his trial took place. On the contrary, Jesus is believed to have reached the thirtieth year of his age before he began His ministry. We accept the year 1 A. D. as the beginning of the Christian era, but when we proceed to look up the date of the birth of Christ, we find that it was calculated back about the year 532, by a monk, Dionysius Exiguus. He was a resident of Syria. It is thought that he fixed the advent too late by four years, and consequently Jesus was born, and here we have a contradiction of terms, in A. D. C. Another calculates that it was 3 B. C. Again, it was Nativity took place before Herod's death, then its date would be four years earlier than the Dionysian reckoning.

Miscellaneous.

W. D., Walkerton, Ind.—An article of considerable length concerning New Mexico was printed in these columns in The Blade of last August 30. Inasmuch as you were a subscriber at that time, we cannot take the space to reprint the article for your especial benefit.

E. L. L., Conneautville, Pa.—We cannot answer your question.

N. G. H., Maple Rapids, Mich.—We can tell you nothing about the Montreal ice carnival.

C. H. B., Cortland, N. Y.—The entrance to San Francisco bay was named Golden Gate by Drake, the explorer, in 1578. Why it was so named we cannot definitely state.

C. R., Vandergrift, Pa.—Yes; Pocahontas married John Rolfe. Whether he was soldier or planter makes little difference. He could have been both.

L. A. M., Henry, Ill.—We cannot give you Congressman-elect Brown's vote in Tennessee.

J. F. W., Arlington, Tenn.—There have been no changes in the President's cabinet since we published it a few weeks ago. However, a number of changes have been announced to take place in March. These have been published in our news columns.

W. F., Edwardsburg, Mich.: We cannot answer your question. Have no record of boats sunk.

A. M., Miller Station, Pa.—President Roosevelt has no twins in his family.

H. D. K., Sullivan, Ind.—We know nothing about Vice President Fairbanks' purchase of an Inkstand. You might write to him for authoritative information.

O. V. W., Poe, W. Va.—We know of no such fund in the United States treasury as that mentioned by you.

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Six cents for postage, less than the price of a smoke or two beers, isn't much money. No man longing with all his soul to feel again the vigor of life in his bones will balk at the amount.

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There is no other expense—absolutely none. Simply enclose your six cents, stamps, in your letter, at our risk, and the full dollar package of MAN MEDICINE, carefully packed in plain wrapper, will reach you by return mail. This is a square deal, men. We say "MAN MEDICINE is great—it is worth more than money to weak men—it will add pounds to your horsepower—it will cure you." We KNOW this, but you don't—you have to take our word for it. Just ONE package will PROVE it, however. So we take the hundred cents risk to your six cents risk to PROVE it to you. That's fair. It means more than six cents to you—it means life, vigor, strength, endurance.

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This Bank Is Never Broke

It Is the House of Monte Carlo, and No Matter What Your System Is, You Can't Beat It.

For the gambler, whatever he be, monkey or man, cool or crazy, inexperienced or practiced, is foredoomed to fail.

Gambling or not gambling merely is a matter of knowledge or ignorance regarding the principles of gambling. These understood, its occupation is gone. Its disappearance is sure with the cultivation of the human brain.

Sir Hiram S. Maxim and Mr. B. Seebohm Rowntree, of London, are two of the latest and ablest students of the theory and art of gambling and these are the conclusions that their recent researches compel. They explain in impetuous minutiae the wonders of roulette, of horse racing and of the stock exchanges, and for all the conclusion is but one.

The roulette, for example, is described as a wheel which lies on its face with its center on a fixed pivot. The croupier causes the wheel to revolve rapidly about its center and then jerks a small ivory ball in the opposite direction around the rim. When the ball loses its momentum it falls into one of 37 stalls cut into the surface of the wheel. These stalls are marked in irregular order with the numbers from zero to 36 inclusive; and they are colored alternately red and black, except zero, which has no color.

The even chances, so called because a successful bet upon one of them earns the value of the stake, are red against black, odd against even, first 18 against second 18. Zero does not belong to any of these groups. When zero appears the bank takes half the stakes and thus on the average gains one-half in 37 or 1.35 per cent. on the even chances. If the gambler bets on a number and wins, the bank pays him 35 times his stake, instead of 36 times, and thus wins on the average one time in 37, or 2.7 per cent. from the numbers. "Trente et quarante," a game of cards, is also played at Monte Carlo. There only are even chances. The advantage of the bank, called refait, can be insured against for 1 per cent.

These small percentages of from 1 to 2.7 suffice to bring in an annual profit of about $6,000,000. This, then, must nearly be the whole amount taken into the gambling rooms in the year to be staked.

If no money were staked twice, but fresh coins used every time, and the winnings taken away, the bank would have to produce a sum which has been estimated at $30,000,000 to give the bank the annual profit of $6,000,000. But most of the gamblers habitually stake their winnings until they are lost. And the bank wins a sum nearly equal to what the public provides for the purpose of gambling. The action of the public affects the proportional but not the actual loss.

If fresh money were staked every time the gambler's loss would be only 1¼ in 60. Using the same coins over and over again they lose 60 in 60. The actual loss is the same in either case, although the loss in proportion to the money carried in is extremely different.

The bank is sure to win, provided the stakes are numerous, for in that case the losses over one even chance will be balanced by its gains over the opposite chances, and the difference between the two, if a loss, will be more than compensated by zero and refait. The correct guesses on the numbers nearly are equaled by the incorrect, any slight preponderance in the proportion of one over the other being, if a loss, more than liquidated oy the bank's percentage of 2.7. In the long run the excess of one color over another is less than 1.35, of one number over another less than 2.7.

But suppose the gamblers should not wage civil war against each other, but should unite against their common foe, betting continuously on one color, say red. They gain nothing. Black would appear as often as red. Their losses on black would equal their gains on red, and white (blanc) would win as much as ever. As between the aggregate public and the bank the results are the same whether the public backs red only or red and black simultaneously, or makes any other bets.

It doesn't matter, then, how anyone bets? Sir Hiram Maxim tells a story of a husband and wife who divided their spare cash equally and agreed to bet in level stakes at different ends of the same tables. They found afterward that one had backed red continuously and the other black, so their operations resulted in there being a small loss to zero. They couldn't win, but neither could they lose except to zero, which appears seldom and takes only half a stake. Thus they were sure of a long bout of wagering before their money was exhausted. If they intended to strike a great many times they were foredoomed to lose all, whether they staked on red only, or on red and black simultaneously. The public cannot win by backing red, for their wagers are so numerous that black's appearances will be nearly the same as those of red, while zero is always up for any deficiency, but the individual who bets seldom may obtain an excess of red over black, and should keep open this chance of winning. Hence the occasional bettor may ignore zero and refait, for they occur but seldom.

Fortunes are ready waiting for those who can prophesy the future with any approach to certainty. A great many think themselves prophets. This belief in one's self and one's judgment produces the systems which bring the gamblers to the rooms day after day. If there were no systems there would be so little gambling that it would not pay to keep the saloons open.

A system is defined by these investigators as possible chances are not backed simultaneously, no system is either good or bad. "This conclusion is so abhorrent to human nature that in practice it is disregarded by all who bet; and scarcely any writer subscribes to it even in theory. That a system merely is an idea, that its influence merely is nothing, except in so far as it increases or decreases the sum exposed to chance—is altogether too repulsive a view. Nobody follows it in practice, it is difficult to find one who consistently supports it in theory. Nevertheless, it is the only true view."

All systems rest upon the belief that at roulette the past affects the future. If red has appeared, expect black, and so forth. But we cannot estimate what forces are applied to the wheel and ball, and have no reason whatever for supposing that a past appearance of red can be an impotent item in these forces, or that it has any influence whatever. Even if we did know this the knowledge would be useless, for we should have to take into account all past chance events, which obviously is impossible.

It often is said that the individual is at a disadvantage, because his wealth is less than that of the bank. This is not true. An individual richer than the bank would lose all his wealth if he went on betting. His wealth would enable him to last longer than a poor man, but the result would be the same in both cases. A rich man betting seldom has an advantage over a poor man. Ten men with a reserve of one are as strong as ten men with a reserve of a thousand. If the reserves are not brought to the fighting lines. Or if the fight is to a finish, and the enemy kills on an average of one in every seventy-four shots with no loss to himself, ten men with their reserve of a thousand will all be killed as surely in the long run as ten men with the reserve of one.

To the bank it is immaterial how the gamblers are divided if they bet often, and provided the aggregate amount on the board does not vary to an excessive degree. The bank desires no advantage from its absence of nerves or the amount of its resources. It suffers no disadvantage from the fact that the gambler may choose the moment for the wager he may bet, or abstain, as he pleases. Such considerations are of no value whatsoever. The bank merely provides gamblers with the opportunity of testing their powers of prophecy. The money of those who guess wrongly is used to pay those who guess correctly, and a small percentage is retained as the bank's commission for its trouble.

Betting on horse races, though under conditions extremely different from those prevailing at Monte Carlo, is governed by the same general principles. The horse racing situation is summarized with the sage observation that "it is well known to be foolish to prophesy unless you know; it equally is foolish to risk a serious sum in a bet about a horse race unless you have important and secret information, a thing of the rarest occurrence, even to professionals. In nearly every case the whole sum of human knowledge about the various horses is stated in the bookmaker's odds. To choose a horse from the "field" is to contest the general verdict. Nothing is gained by taking the advice of an individual, however honest and able, for his choice is unlikely to beat the favorite and it does not pay to back even favorites.

Of stock exchange events it is granted that the gambler may think he has a profitable advantage in his power of selecting the propitious moment. But the price of a stock is a statement of the value put upon it by the expert world after considering all the essential factors—interest-earning capacity, public opinion, financial influences, the value of money.

No sensible man would have the temerity to suppose that he, as an amateur, can estimate the quantity and value of these conditions better than the professionals. The amateur who uses a roulette system, or backs a horse or speculates on the stock exchange is assuming powers of prophecy which are not natural to human beings. He is claiming superhuman qualities.

Gamblers seem gradually to be realizing this. There is a steady growth in the understanding of roulette; modern mathematicians know more of the laws of probability than did Pascal or D'Alembert. Modern system-mongers have outgrown some of the superstitions of their predecessors. Few now believe in an infallible system. The gambling at Monte Carlo is becoming less irrational; there is less belief in luck or systems, less hope of winning, less persistence.

The spirit of gambling, it is suggested, is allied nearly to the spirit of national enterprise and easily may be transformed therefrom. With the growth of intelligence it is hoped that the gambler may be domesticated and harnessed for the use of mankind.

GOOD SHORT STORIES

An Irishman, with one jaw very much swollen from a tooth that he wished to have pulled, entered the office of a Washington dentist.

When the suffering Celt was put into the chair and saw the gleaming forceps approaching his face, he positively refused to open his mouth. Being a man of resource, the dentist quietly instructed his assistant to push a pin into the patient's leg so that when the Irishman opened his mouth to yell the dentist could get at the refractory molar.

When all was over the dentist smilingly asked:

"It didn't hurt as much as you expected, did it?"

"Well, no," reluctantly admitted the patient. "But," he added, as he ran his hand over the place into which the assistant had inserted the pin, "little did I think them roots wint that far down."—Success Magazine.

A clergyman in the north of England was dissatisfied with the quality of milk being served him. He determined to remonstrate with the milkman who brought it. "I've been wanting to see you in regard to the quality of the milk which you are serving me." "Yes, sir," uneasily answered the tradesman, "I only wanted to say," continued the minister, "that I use the milk for dietary purposes exclusively and not for christening."—Exchange.

A parliamentary candidate was being heckled. One of the questions had reference to the religious denomination to which he belonged.

"Well," he said, "you have asked me an honest question, and you shall have a straightforward answer. My grandmother was a Scotswoman—a rigid Presbyterian."

Obvious disappointment was shown on the faces of the audience, so the candidate proceeded:

"My grandfather was English, and therefore a member of the Church of England."

Still no enthusiasm, but rather the reverse.

"My father, on the other hand, was a good Baptist," went on the desperate candidate, who was still unrewarded by applause. He grew anxious so hurriedly added: "But my dear old mother, long since dead, was a Methodist."

Instantly all faces were radiant, so he concluded:

"And, gentlemen, I follow the precepts of my dear old mother. I'm a Methodist, and I don't care who knows it."—London Daily News.

What can be more mirth-provoking than the naive simplicity with which a pompous critic, who prides himself on his lynx-eyed acuteness, will sometimes walk into a trap that has been set for him? When Alexander Pope was translating Homer, he read, by request, several books of the "Iliad" to Lord Halifax—whom he characterizes as a literary coxcomb—at his house. During the progress of his lordship several times stopped the poet and suggested that certain passages might be improved. Perplexed and irritated by the advice the poet withdrew with Garth, who laughed heartily at the incident, and told him to leave the verses just as they were—to call on Halifax a month later, thank him for his criticisms, and then read again the verses to him unaltered. Pope followed this advice saying to Halifax that he hoped his lordship should now find his objections removed—upon which Halifax, delighted, cried out: "Ay, now they are perfectly right; nothing can be better."—Success Magazine.

On one of the horseback rides about Washington occurred an incident which shows Attorney General Moody's sense of humor. He was riding alone when a man galloped up alongside and engaged him in conversation. He proved to be a newspaper correspondent who had not been in the city very long, and who began to talk in a very light vein.

"I suppose you meet most of the government officials," said Mr. Moody.

"Oh, yes," replied the correspondent. "Take those cabinet officers, for instance. They are very ordinary people, like you and me, only some of them are industrious."

"There's Postmaster General Payne. He works from early till late. Judge Taft is a worker too."

"How about Secretary Moody?" asked his companion, falling in with the spirit of the conversation.

"He's a big man—but he is the laziest fellow in the cabinet." By this time they reached a drug store and stopped to have a drink of soda water. When they were about to separate, Moody said:

"I've had a very pleasant ride with you. I hope we shall meet again."

The newspaper man took out a card and handed it to Moody, who in turn handed him one of his own. But he did not wait to witness the correspondent's embarrassment.—World's Work.

THE PERFECT MAN

From the Perfect Tailor's Point of View.

The beauteous "mannequin"—the living model who sweeps through the salons of West End dressmaking establishments, showing off gowns and mantles, has her counterpart in the sterner sex, says the London Mail.

During the Tailor and Cutter exhibition a number of "male mannequins" were pressed into service to show off the beauties of frock coats, lounge suits and sporting kit.

Some of them were soldier students from the army clothing department at Pimlico; others were cutters who had moulded their exhibits to their own figures.

What is the perfect figure from the tailor's point of view? This was the question propounded to an expert at the exhibition.

The expert at once rattled off the following measurements of the tailor's ideal:

Height	5 ft. 6 ins.
Chest	36 ins.
Waist	32 ins.

"The length of the leg should be half of the height, minus two inches. The length of the sleeve should be half the height, minus four inches.

"In France the ideal man's waist is thirty inches, and this applies also to officers in the British army.

"A good figure immediately enhances the appearance of any garment. A 'strong man' can never be well dressed. The chest and arms should never be abnormal, and fat calves spell badly-setting trousers."

Past Redemption.

"Do you expect to make a business man out of your son?" asked an old friend.

"No," he's hopeless!" exclaimed the father. "I gave him a thousan dollar bill the other day, and the first thing he did was to put it under a microscope to see what kind of germs it had on it."—Kansas City Independent.

Business of the Year

American Trade Shows Remarkable Increase

Bradstreet's has just compiled an interesting table on the leading lines of American agriculture, manufacture and general trade for the year now drawing to a close and from its perusal some valuable facts are gleaned. Of course many figures are estimates and subject to final revision, but on the whole they are fairly accurate, as only such movements are taken as are really accessible. As will be observed, the high water mark of 1905 was passed in nearly every item, the present year being the greatest in the commercial history of the country. The table follows:

	1906	1905	Per cent., Gain or loss.
Corn, bushels	2,881,096,00	2,707,993,540	Increase 6.4
Wheat, bushels	729,883,000	692,979,489	Increase 5.7
Oats, bushels	883,352,000	953,216,197	Decrease 9.7
Barley, bushels	144,528,000	136,651,020	Increase 5.7
Rye, bushels	30,000,000	28,485,952	Increase 5.3
Buckwheat, bushels	13,688,000	14,555,082	Decrease 3.1
Total, six leading cereals	4,672,547,000	4,533,911,280	Increase 3.1
Potatoes, bushels	303,767,500	260,741,294	Increase 16.5
Sugar (Louisiana), pounds	593,600,000	738,240,000	Increase 19.6
Sugar (Porto Rico), pounds	571,200,000	477,120,000	Increase 19.7
Sugar (Hawaii), pounds	884,800,000	862,400,000	Increase 2.6
Sugar, beet (United States), pounds	772,800,000	636,160,000	Increase 21.4
Sugar, total pounds	2,822,400,000	2,714,880,000	Increase 3.9
Apples, barrels	36,000	24,000,000	Increase 50.0
Cranberries, barrels	250,000	136,500	Increase 83.7
Cotton, bales	12,500,000	11,345,988	Increase 10.2
Tobacco, pounds	628,814,800	633,033,719	Decrease .6
Shoe shipments, eastern (ten months), ca.	4,361,569	4,248,057	Increase 2.6
Iron-ore shipments (lake), tons	37,000,

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1906.

Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wideawake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

TERMS—POSTAGE PAID.

Single copy, weekly, one year, $1.00; six months, 60 cents; three months, 30 cents. Write for club terms.

SPECIMEN COPIES sent, postpaid, free to any address. Send for one, and at the same time give us the address of a dozen or so of your friends. Address THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Entered at the postoffice at Toledo as second-class mail matter.

Circulation Last Week 182,000

NOVEMBER PREMIUM WATCH.

We have awarded the November premium watch to John Speigelman, Kingman, Kans., who sent us a club of 163 names.

Current Comment

The "trial marriage" idea may look all right in a book, from an advertising standpoint.

A shortage of poets is reported from Missouri, but that it not her only reason for happiness.

What a strong man Senator Tillman would be if he would get on the right side of some question.

The present congress has enough work before it to keep it busy all the time it is not engaged in talking.

A New Mexico editor fractured his jaw yelling at the office boy. The office boy escaped without injury, as usual.

Count Boni has been offered lots of jobs, but what he is looking for is an heiress who has more money than sense.

Bret Harte's Yuba dam has been destroyed by fire. It might be mentioned that Yuba dam isn't reformed spelling.

The longer the President's message the more joy it gives the critical person who goes through it in search of split infinitives.

One-third of the money of the country is said to have been represented at the Spencer funeral. None of it was buried, however.

Any samples of simplified spelling that slip into Uncle Joe Cannon's correspondence he credits to his stenographer.

It won't take much of an advance in the price of sugar to pay the $18,000 fine that has been assessed against the sugar trust.

If the charges made are true, some of those alleged western land thieves would have soon been ready to steal all outdoors.

A Massachusetts club woman wants a law prohibiting a man from marrying more than once. Why not make it to include pretty widows, too?

It must be pretty dull in Washington when Uncle Joe Cannon, when he reached there the other day, could find nothing to say to the correspondents.

Mr. Theodore P. Shonts joins his daughter in the statement that she will not marry a duke. Let the audience please rise and sing Hail Columbia.

Emperor William might not get so tired of his job if he had a man like Taft to take hold and run things for a day or two at a time now and then.

A German professor declares that Sir Philip Sidney's son-in-law wrote Shakespeare's works. Such a declaration should be enough to stir up the Baconites.

It is rather sad to think that Senator Platt, with his manifold opportunities, might have so lived that the general public would have called him Uncle Tom.

The sheriff of a Kentucky county is to auction off to the highest bidder a man who is too lazy to work. That plan may be cheaper than electing the fellow to an office.

Woman suffragists have lost in Vermont by a narrow margin, but they will not give up the fight. And when they do win, they will have a good, glorious cry of triumph.

The coal supply of the United States is said to be good for 5,000 years. That is, of course, if President Baer, the representative of Providence, doesn't become wasteful.

Husbands and wives who are looking forward to the celebration of their golden wedding cannot be expected to take much interest in the subject of "trial marriages."

Mark Twain is 71, and announces that he expects to live "many more years to enjoy the beauty and hospitality of this world." There's the optimism of youth for you.

More than two hundred persons met with accidents while climbing the Alps during the last year. The record doesn't show that they were all high school graduates who had accepted their class motto literally.

William Dean Howells insists that genius is merely another name for hard work. Somehow this does not harmonize with the theory that genius always wears patches on the seat of its trousers.

While the scientific women are busy exploiting new ideas about betrothals and marriage, Cupid is laughing in his sleeve and occasionally shooting a dart through a heart that contains red blood.

"Let me perish sword in hand, at honor's sudden call," sings Alfred Austin, England's poet laureate. Guess that's poetry, all right, but it would doubtless have to be a pretty loud call that would induce Alfred to reach for his sword.

THE TARIFF PROBLEM.

Students of political economy who have been following the trend of the administration see in President Roosevelt's advocacy of inheritance and income tax laws the ground work for a marked reduction in tariffs. While the President has repeatedly declared that the primary object of these laws should be to dissipate fortunes swollen to unreasonable size, there is no question that they would furnish a very large revenue.

While there is no likelihood that the tariff question will be taken up in the final session of the 59th congress because there is enough unfinished work to occupy the time remaining, there is a general understanding that the President will call an extra session of the 60th congress soon after March for the express purpose of talking tariff. The demand for revision has been steadily growing and the administration believes it both good politics and good business to revise the Dingley schedules before the next presidential campaign.

This is not an indication that the Republican party purposes deviating a hair's breadth from its fundamental principle of protection but as is well known, the tariff on most articles does more than merely protect.. When steel rails manufactured in this country can be purchased abroad cheaper than they can be purchased here, it is proof that the tariff has passed far beyond the protective line. So on many other articles, the duty is so high that American consumers have been taxed to give exorbitant profits to manufacturers and enable the large corporations to distribute enormous dividends to their stockholders. Against such a condition the country is rising in protest.

Republicans who believe in the maintenance of their principles are urging revision for the same reasons that the President is urging greater control of railroads and corporations —namely to better equalize industrial power and to prevent the pendulum swinging to the other extreme. In other words they would guard against the danger of having another Wilson-Gorman tariff bill foisted upon the country. With the rapidly increasing sentiment for tariff revision, unless the Republican congress boldly faces the issue and meets the demand, the people will turn over the control of the government to those who have made free trade their rallying cry for more than a quarter of a century.

It is the opinion of the President and many of his advisers that the tariff should be wholly eliminated from politics and handled by a commission of tariff experts whose duty it should be to revise the schedules as occasion warrants. This commission could meet frequently and deal with the subject scientifically, taking care to preserve the principle of protection and to keep the tariffs high enough to safeguard the interests of American workingmen. That plan should be adopted and may be embodied as a suggestion in the President's message if he calls an extra session of congress. It will settle once and for all a problem that in its fluctuating presentations periodically disturbs the industrial quiet of the nation.

IDLE SPECULATION.

Just for divertisement probably, Senator Hansbrough has been discussing the probable effect of a war with Japan in our relations with England. The treaty signed by Japan and Great Britain specifically provides for defensive and offensive alliance. If any special interest of either country is attacked from without, the other is pledged to give its ally its unqualified support.

Should the school question that is now agitating the Pacific slope eventuate in hostilities, Japan could call on England for a fulfillment of the contract and we would be up against the strongest alliance in the world. As the senator says, and all will admit, it would be an easy matter for Japan to haul down the American flag over the Philippines. But what would we be doing meauwhile? In reply to this question, the senator gently nudges Old Mother England and points to Canada. "Within 48 hours or thereabouts," our soldiers would be swarming across the border and we would be in possession of King Edward's choicest colonial pearl.

That is interesting as a bit of speculation and no doubt England would think twice before she would expose herself to any such peril, but coming down to sober sense, it is so remote, so full of contingencies as to be scarcely worth consideration. For in spite of the jingo talk there is going to be no war with Japan over the school question. This country is not carrying a chip on its shoulder, nor is Japan seeking an excuse for a fight. Both nations are devoted to peace, pledged to peace, and they will not fly at each other's throat on any slight pretext. President Roosevelt has demonstrated his ability as a peace maker for other nations and we guess he will determine this little tempest in a tea pot to the entire satisfaction of our friends —the Japanese.

BETTING ON BASEBALL.

There is no more enthusiastic lover of baseball in the country than President Johnson, of the American league, and it is because of his loyalty to the game that he decries the practice of betting on the results. His announcement that he will use his influence to prevent this form of gambling on American and National league grounds will be hailed with pleasure by all true admirers of the sport, for they must realize that the step is necessary to preserve the high standard of this national sport.

Recently The Blade referred to the growing practice of betting on football as one that jeopardized the future of the sport, for as the size of the stakes grow, the mercenary interest in time will overshadow the athletic interest, thereby creating temptations that are both harmful and minatory. Besides it starts in the minds of the young students a fever for speculation which, if not checked at the outset, will prove to be a curse, if not actual ruin.

The criticism applies to baseball as well as to football. That which has kept baseball to the forefront of American sports is the fact that players do not make wagers and are therefore free from the suspicion of having "thrown the game" for a consideration. And if Mr. Johnson and his colleagues can make more effectual the embargo on the possible introduction of gambling in baseball, they will have done that which will perpetuate the popularity of this—the cleanest of sports.

THE AMERICAN FARMER.

We imagine that the American farmer looked in his mirror several times this morning after reading the report of the secretary of agriculture. He has a right to be vain, and lord it over his city cousin, for the figures contained in Secretary Wilson's report plainly indicate that this hard-fisted son of toil is "some pumpkins." He is yearly increasing his importance in the industrial world, and is contributing to the nation's prosperity in a remarkable degree.

Truly those figures of Wilson make one feel small. They are so vast that it is difficult for the ordinary mind to comprehend them. Even in these days when we talk glibly of millions as we were wont a half century ago to talk of thousands, the farmer has given us something to think about. Six billion dollars' worth of product, and every penny of it taken from a tickled soil is surely prodigious. And corn is king, for it heads the list with the value of over a billion, enough of itself to pay off the national interest-bearing debt. And then imagine a single stack of hay having a value of $400,000,000! Why it would reach nearly to the very dome of heaven. And $250,000,000 worth of wheat! Converted into bread what a mighty store house would be required to shelter this one year's production of the staff of life.

But it is needless to pile figure on figure. The secretary has told his story, and while it reads like a fairy tale, it is more interesting because it has to do with the material development of the greatest nation on earth. It is something of which every American can be proud, and it is satisfying because it means food and comfort for millions of human beings.

Yet we all know, as James J. Hill recently stated in an interview, that there are still greater possibilities from the American soil. Millions of acres are uncultivated and many more millions that are producing are far from yielding their capacity. This is a great country.

WILL QUIT DODGING.

Republican leaders in congress are disposed to thresh out the questions raised by organized labor. It has been the custom to refer these matters to committee and permit them to be smothered by the stress of other business. But the activity of Mr. Gompers and other labor orators during the last campaign and their utter failure to create an impression have made it clear to congressmen that it is a propitious time to make a final settlement of the disputes.

One of the most important of these labor measures is the anti-injunction bill. As long as it remains in committee Gompers and his friends are able to make it a live issue and hence it will probably receive its final quietus at the coming session. The bill is designed to take organized labor outside the pale of injunction proceedings. As the President and secretary of war have repeatedly declared, it is class legislation pure and simple and for this reason, if for none other, it should have no place in the laws of the country.

There are other matters of less vital importance to labor, respecting contract and alien labor and the immigration laws and these questions may receive more consideration than the anti-injunction bill.

The decision of the Republicans to meet the issues squarely is a wise one. That should have been done when the bills were first introduced. Dodging is poor business. Its effect is to strengthen the opposition because it creates in the minds of the people that there is something in the measure dodged which the law-makers fear. It is a weak cause indeed that can be killed by dodging and many an indifferent proposition has gained adherents because the opposition resorted to dilatory tactics.

GLORIFYING CRIME.

The statement of the Chicago & Alton train robber is an interesting addition to the criminal news of the day, for it shows a rapidly growing tendency of criminals to glorify themselves and their profession. "I did not take any money from workingmen or ladies," he says, "as I only wanted to take money from those that had made it easy and could afford it." This modern Dick Turpin desires the world to understand that he is a perfect and discriminating gentleman who would not stoop to the dirty trick of taking the earnings of a laborer or of tearing jewelry from a lady's ears, but would shove a gun under the nose of a citizen who bore the outward appearance of success and make his victim disgorge.

Yet this man is not wholly to blame for his views. He is not much more than a boy in years and probably still sticks to a habit acquired in early life of reading dime novels. Or perhaps he has been a close student of Raffles, whose exploits, while not above the dime novel order, have been given place in the columns of the yellow journals. Like Pat Crowe and others of the gentry, he finds plenty of authority to justify himself in the assaults made on wealth. Pat Crowe held Cudahy up for a ransom, not because he believed it was justice, but because he knew Cudahy was human and wouldn't measure his paternal love in dollars and cents. Later, when Crowe was acquitted by a jury, although guilty, he seized on the pretext which the jury made the basis of the verdict as justification for his crime.

It must be apparent to the people of this country that our tendency toward lawlessness cannot go on forever. Unless there is a sharp veer from our present course, we shall find ourselves close to the whirlpool of anarchy. The alarming increase in crime is no secret. Every reader of a daily newspaper must be impressed with the fact. Nor is it difficult to find the reason. Because the military authorities have been lenient with deserters of late, there has been a marked increase in desertion. The last report shows a percentage of over seven per cent, as compared with four and a fraction per cent less than a decade ago. It is the same with other crime. Murderers are acquitted because some men are opposed to capital punishment, or if given life imprisonment their sentences are commuted and they are turned loose on society. Burglars and highwaymen find it easy to escape punishment through the tricks of cunning lawyers or the operations of a parole board.

Instead of shunning criminals and thereby making crime odious, we set them up on a pedestal of sentiment and invest them with halos. And we glorify crime. Our women hover around the jails and send dainty food and flowers to the creatures within. The Blade is not devoid of charity. It realizes that many men become criminals through necessity and environment. Nor are we altogether hopeless of the reformatory idea. But we do believe these matters should be left to the authorities who know the circumstances and who are thereby qualified to make discrimination betwen the man criminal by nature and the man criminal by misfortune.

Otherwise we may as well save ourselves the trouble of making laws and save the expense of government. If it is a crime to be successful in business, and if it is the modern idea of justice for the improvident to take from the provident, either stealthily or by force, then we should no longer speak of those engaged in this occupation as "thieves," but as "equalizers" and humanitarians. But it will be well to pause before we go further and study the ultimate consequences.

SYNDICATE WOULD RUN THE POSTOFFICE

A syndicate of capitalists organized by a Chicago man has made a proposition to take over Uncle Sam's postoffice business and manage it hereafter as a private concern. The government is to pay for its mail and in return is to receive rental on all its postoffice property in the United States, and it is the opinion of the promoters that the rentals will offset the mail charge.

While the proposition appears chimerical when one considers that the postoffice is doing an annual business of $600,000,000 a year and has ramifications in every nook and cranny of the country, it is claimed the character of the men back of the proposition preclude any notion that they are anything but in earnest.

Their argument has much to commend it. The department showed a deficit of six per cent on the revenues during the last year—less than ever before. From '65 to '85, the deficit was 14½ per cent on the revenue, and from '85 to 1905, it was an average of 8 per cent. These men believe they can introduce one-cent postage and by good business management not only wipe out the deficit but make a profit. They guarantee to turn back into the public treasury all profits in excess of 7 per cent.

The government would save a considerable sum by the arrangement and relieve itself of a great burden. Moreover in order to make the business a success the syndicate would be compelled to improve and increase the service.

Advocates of government ownership may find in the proposition a menace to their campaign. For Uncle Sam to relinquish this public utility to private capital would be an acknowledgement that he had made a failure, and if the syndicate should add to the popularity of the postal service by introducing improved business methods, it would be a long time before the people would lend a willing ear to socialistic schemes embracing government ownership of anything.

It is not likely that congress will give serious consideration to the syndicate's offer, but the agitation may have an impressive effect as indicating that the postoffice department is not by any means a model public institution.

OHIO'S STAY-AT-HOME VOTE.

The Columbus Dispatch figures that the vote given Carmi Thompson for secretary of state is the smallest Republican vote cast in Ohio in fourteen years, and is fewer by 22,551 than the vote cast for Herrick last year, when he was defeated by more than 40,000. The vote for Hoskins was 121,588 less than that cast for Pattison a year ago, but 7,000 more than was cast for Parker in 1904. All told Ohio cast 227,810 fewer votes this year than in the presidential election of 1900, and 192,130 fewer than in 1904.

It is a safe estimate that a quarter of a million of legal Ohio voters failed to go to the polls this year. These men enjoy the benefits and protection of state and local government, but neglect to assume the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. They refuse to concern themselves about the selection of proper men for local and state officers, although enjoying all the privileges accorded to sovereign citizens. It is a safe guess that a large per cent of this stay-at-home vote is made up of men who are loud in their criticisms of the management of county and state affairs, and are prone to condemn officials for alleged acts of omission and commission.

If for any reason these 250,000 voters were denied the franchise what a howl they would raise! But with the voting booths within a short distance of their homes, they shirk their duty. The exhibition given by the stay-at-home Ohio voter this year impels one to the belief that a law should be enacted compelling all qualified citizens to vote.

AFTER SWOLLEN FORTUNES.

Washington correspondents claim with the greatest confidence that President Roosevelt will urge congress to pass income and inheritance tax laws during the next session, not so much with a view to increasing the revenue, but in order to put a check on fortunes swollen beyond all reason. He has frequently called attention to these fortunes as a menace to the welfare of the country and has expressed the opinion that congress should enact a law which would keep them within a safe limit.

It is argued that this regulation is as essential as the regulation of railway rates and the control of the trusts. England has an income tax law which adds materially to her revenue, but it is one that makes no distinction between large and small fortunes. It is understood that the President would improve on England's law, by providing a graded tax which would fall heaviest on the large fortunes and be scarcely felt by those in moderate circumstances.

No doubt such legislation would provoke more discussion than did the rate bill when it was first proposed. Capitalists who feel that the income tax is aimed at them do not hesitate to stamp it as the extreme of Socialism, and are very bitter in their denunciation of it. But it has not been the habit of the President to listen to criticism from this quarter. He has given the subject careful thought. The developments of the last two years have convinced him that many very large fortunes have been built up at the expense of the people, and if he can find a legal way of recovering some of the spoils, he won't hesitate to employ it. He expects strong opposition, but the plan is one which will naturally appeal to all who have not had, or who think they have been denied, a square deal, and it means that he will have a powerful public sentiment behind him.

But congress, as was demonstrated at the last session, is not so responsive to the popular will, and it will be remarkable if the senate especially takes kindly to the measure. The pocketbooks of numerous senators would be directly affected by legislation of this kind, and it is a difficult matter for an official to eliminate the personal equation.

However, we shall know more of the President's wishes on this subject when he has communicated his opinion to congress. Certain it is if he carries out his views in a recommendation to the legislative department, there will be no lack of interest in the forthcoming session.

ANOTHER NEW RECORD.

Uncle Sam is putting method into his business affairs. For the first time in the country's history it is said there will be no deficiency bill before congress. That is, none of the departments has contracted debts in excess of appropriations. Heretofore these deficiencies have run into the millions and have caused no end of criticism.

And after all, there is no more reason why the public servants should exceed their allowances for their respective departments than that the employe of a business house should be guilty of the same indiscretion. It is their duty to cut their coats according to the cloth, and let the responsibility rest on congress if that body has made inadequate provision.

The new program is one that begets confidence in the national administration. It is almost tradition that our governmental affairs are loosely managed, and the lack of system has been frequently criticized. But if public officials have come to realize that government is like any great business institution and must be conducted on the same principles to secure the best results, a great reform has been effected.

WARM WINTER COMING.

The Blade acknowledges its indebtedness to John C. Busby, C. P. M., of Independence, Iowa. We are not certain that we know what particular significance the letters C. P. M. have when attached to the name of Busby, but that matters not. It is our pleasure to convey to the people the message Mr. Busby has entrusted to our care for delivery. He writes as follows:

"I predict a warm winter. Brothers Hicks, Foster, Elias Hart, the goose-bone man, to the contrary notwithstanding. I have been in the forest and find that the squirrels are not laying in their store; the groundhog is not yet occupying his winter quarters; the screech-owl is still in the naked woods; the corn husk is loose on the ear; the planet Venus is near the earth, which indicates more rain than snow; while Mars is nearing the earth with unremitting speed. So, good people, don't let Foster or Hicks scare you with a cold winter prediction. Here is my forecast for the next three months: December will be warm and rainy, with much fog. January will be a warm month up to the 25th; then we will get the coldest weather of the winter. February will come in cold and remain cold until the 15th; the last of the month will be mild. March will come in like a lamb, with lots of rain, and will be a warm month. It is decreed that we shall have winter and summer and autumn, cold and heat, so long as time shall last.

"JOHN C. BUSBY, C. P. M.,
"Independence, Ia."

We would like to reach out to Independence, Iowa, and grasp the hand of John C. Busby, C. P. M. That being physically impossible, we shall do the next best thing—thank him for his gentle words. We thank him for coming out of the woods and sending his reassuring message. The man who holds close communion with Nature, studies the groundhog and screech owl, has poetry in his soul, and we believe in him and trust him as truly as we trust the meteorologist who studies the kaleidoscope of the sky. If Busby is mistaken so are the squirrel, the groundhog, the screech owl, and the corn husk.

PRESIDENT'S COURSE APPROVED

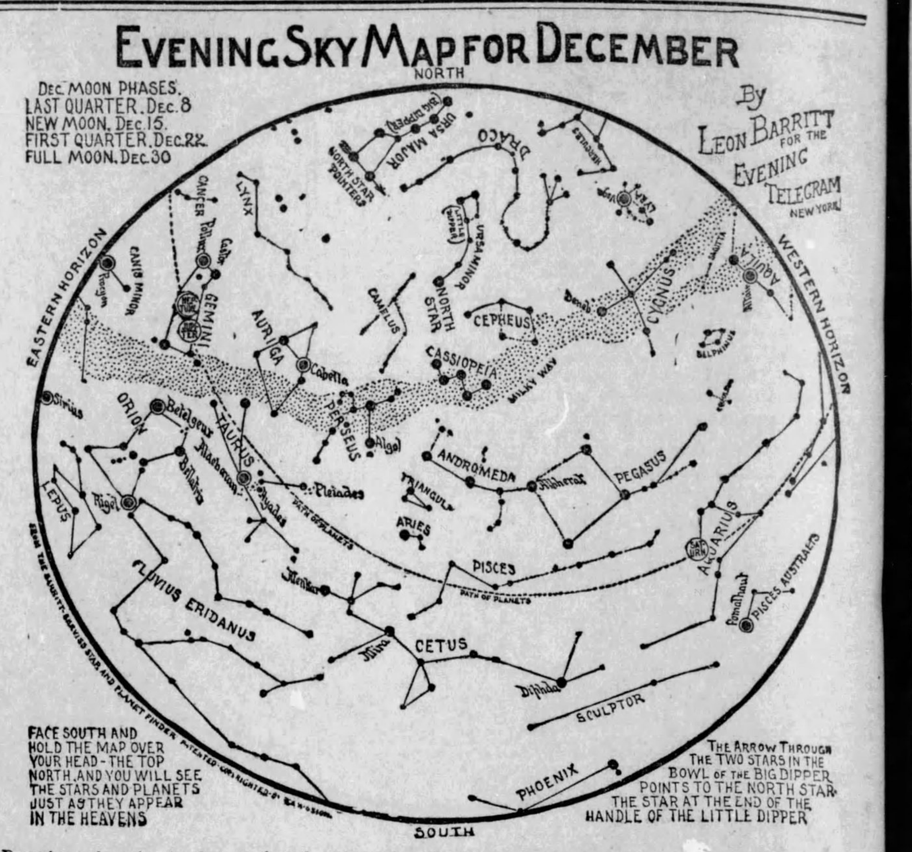
Citizens of Brownsville, believing that the many stories concerning the riot which led to the discharge of the colored soldiers had created a misunderstanding, requested General A. B. Nettleton, of Chicago, a veteran of the war and a former assistant secretary of the treasury, to make an impartial investigation in the interest of truth and justice. The general accepted the commission and has made public his findings.

He confirms in every particular the report of the two army officers sent by the war department to investigate the trouble, and as this report was the basis of the President's final action, the effect of General Nettleton's conclusions is to justify that action. He declares that there was no provocation for the wanton killing and maiming of Brownville citizens, but that, on the contrary, the street conduct of some of the colored soldiers was "aggressively and causelessly insolent." Referring to the riot itself he says:

"It was simply a most cowardly conspiracy to terrify, wound and kill unoffending men, women and children at the hour of midnight, when defense or resistence was impossible, and was not even attempted. Evidently not an opposing shot was fired."

General Nettleton's conclusion is inevitable. He speaks of the "conspiracy of silence" which prevented the government from punishing the previous "conspiracy of riot," and says that, in his opinion, President Roosevelt had no other recourse than ta discharge the offending companies, unless, indeed, discipline in the army is to be a thing of the past.

The high character of General Nettleton, his services to his country and his well known sympathy for the negro race make his contribution to this unpleasant controversy extremely valuable. It should have the effect of silencing the criticism which has been heaped on the President by well-meaning but ill advised citizens who felt that he had been impetuous in the matter.



December ushers in the first of the splendid winter constellations—Orion, Taurus, Gemini and Auriga. What a feast of scintillating stellar worlds they are bringing into the view! The eye at one glance eastward holds upon its retina seven first magnitude stars—Aldebaran, the fiery red eye of Taurus; Betelgeux and Rigel in Orion; Pollux in Gemini; Capella in Auriga; Procyon in Canis Minor, and the most brilliant of all stars, Sirius, in Canis Major, while over the whole group, presiding with kingly majesty and overshadowing brilliancy, sits the planet Jupiter on his throne in Gemini.

Turn aside from the attractions of the fireside tonight and gaze upon this incomparable stellar spectacle. Let your imagination soar with the thought that these same stars were looked upon by the lowly Nazarene, the Caesars, and the shepherds gazed with awe and wondering admiration upon this scene; that millions of years, undoubtedly, before their time these same stars shone out upon the night as you see them now.

It is well to commune with nature once in a while, to have some thought of the great system of which our world is a part, to have a realizing sense of our own littleness and we shall be better men and women for it.

Venus a Morning Star.

Venus has now left our evening sky and on December 19 will appear as a morning star in the constellation Scorpio. Mercury is also a morning star at this date and in the same constellation. Mars is a morning star on December 5 in the constellation Virgo and within a very few degrees of the first magnitude star Spica.

When a superior planet and the earth are in a straight line with the sun it is termed "opposition." Every twenty-five or twenty-six months Mars and the earth are in opposition. The average distance between Mars and the earth at these periods is fifty millions of miles. As the orbits of these bodies are elliptical there comes an opposition once every fifteen years when the earth is farthest from the sun and Mars is nearest to the sun, which brings the distance between these planets down to thirty-five millions of miles—the nearest point to which they ever approach each other.

This interesting period is near at hand and will fully develop during the coming summer months. Mars will then be a special object of study by astronomers because of its nearness and to the layman because to the naked eye its strikingly red color will be greatly accentuated by its increased size and brilliancy in which respect it will rival Venus.

Saturn is still an evening star in Aquarius; Neptune near Jupiter in Gemini, but invisible except by telescope, and Uranus, also invisible to the naked eye, in Sagittarius.

I have received many inquiries as to when a planet is a morning or an evening star. The rule is very simple, and as follows: A planet rising (or appearing) in the heavens before midnight is an evening star and a planet rising after midnight is a morning star. Venus and Mercury, being between the earth and the sun, cannot rise in the evening on the eastern horizon, as do the superior planets—Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune—all of which move in orbits outside of the earth's, so as the sun goes down Venus and Mercury come into view—appear—as evening stars—Mercury for an hour after sunset and Venus for two or three hours, when they follow the sun below our horizon, going down long before midnight.

In the morning, however, when Venus and Mercury appear as morning stars, it might be said of them as of the superior planets—that they rise.

To ascertain when a planet will appear as a morning or evening star on a given date take a planet finder, place the planet disk upon the degree of the ecliptic according to the table for the date desired and revolve the planisphere until the disk appears in the opening; stop the planisphere then and look for the day of the month selected, and if opposite any hour before midnight the planet will be an evening star, and if opposite an hour after midnight it will be a morning star.

Most Human of All Machines

Men Who Know Them Tell Many Peculiar Yarns About the Strange Locomotive.

Locomotive engineers will tell you that of all pieces of machinery a locomotive comes nearest to being a living thing.

It may be slow or it may be fast. It may be a good puller or a poor puller. These things are beyond the power of manufacturer or engineer to determine.

To get the best out of her—to use the pronoun that engineers employ customarily in speaking of a locomotive—she must be humored. Her engineer must know just what she can do and what is her limit. If a strange engineer attempts to run her, he naturally fails to get the best results from her.

In former days the engine was a gorgeous affair, glittering with brass from one end to the other. Some engineers showed affection for the machine by spending hundreds of dollars on brasswork. But all that is changed by modern practice on the big railroads which makes the locomotive as plain as possible.

The engineer studied his engine until he knew every one of her points, both good and bad. And it is right here that the locomotive becomes almost human.

Build 20 of them along exactly the same lines, and yet each machine will be different from all the others. This is one of the reasons why the engineer becomes attached to his machine. He is the only one who knows her, and he can get the best results.

The story is told of an engineer who said he would almost rather run over a friend than reverse his engine. Reversing an engine while moving at full speed has a tendency to shake her up some. The engineer meant that he would rather risk injuring a friend than his locomotive.

Down on the Missouri Pacific road was an engine that had a record of disaster. It was a passenger engine of the most modern workmanship, and from a mechanical point of view had no superior.

The fireman had an easy job in keeping steam up on her, and it was said that the engine could outrun and outpull and engine of her build on the road. But she was unlucky.

She had been in many smashups and every engineer who had run her had been injured. Yet the last engineer who got her became so proud of her that he never stopped talking about her good qualities. To a friend he said one day as he was oiling up:

"I can't give this engine up. I have become so attached to her that I wouldn't care to run any other. And yet I feel that she'll get me one of these days."

"Well," replied his friend, "if you feel like that you ought to quit running her right away."

"I don't care," said the engineer. "I'm going to stick to her anyway."

And he did.

And she got him. An empty car blew out on the track one night while he was going at full speed, and when the engine was jacked up the engineer was found dead underneath.

Riding over the Illinois Central railroad the other day in the cab of one of the biggest passenger engines on the road a layman was told by the engineer:

"This engine is too fast for this run. It's too bad we're not behind a little that I could show you what she could do."

Just the same this was the fastest run between Chicago and St. Louis on any of the roads, and the engine at the time her engineer spoke was traveling not much less than a mile a minute.

"Watch her jump now when I use a little of the reserve power," continued the proud engineer.

And then he pulled the long throttle lever out to the limit—wide open, in railroad parlance.

Jump she did, and began to move at almost redoubled speed.

"Why, this old girl could travel like that right into St. Louis and not turn a hair," affectionately said the engineer, turning a proud and pleased face to his passenger after he had pushed the throttle back to its normal position.

The engine might have been too fast for that particular run, but it wasn't any too fast for him, that was very evident, and if anyone had suggested taking her off and substituting a smaller machine that man would have been as much aggrieved as if one had suggested his separation from a near relative.

Of recent years on some of the roads there has been a change in the handling of engines. Where in former years each engineer had his own locomotive, which he ran over a division of 100 miles or so and then took a rest, now the runs have lengthened to 150 and 200 miles, and some of the engines have as many as three engineers.

On still other roads there is a system which is known as pooling the engines. An engineer will have charge of a machine one day and perhaps he won't get aboard of her again for a month. A new engineer takes her back; still another brings her out again, and so it goes on.

No one takes any special interest in the machine, therefore. Under the old system of one engineer to one engine the engineer will take so much interest in his charge that he spends hours of his own time whipping the locomotive into shape, anxious to bring out the best she can do, for she belongs to him, and his pride is aroused. A good engineer's reputation does not consist wholly in his ability to keep his schedule time, but much of it rests upon his being able to keep his engine in good running order.

But the pooling scheme has done away with all this and no one can be held responsible for the poor working of an engine. The moment the engineer finishes his run he is glad to quit work.—New York Sun.

Current Events.

Negroes of New York plan to establish department store for their race.

Secretary Wilson in his annual report says new food laws are being enforced.

Accused of cheating in school examinations, a 13-year-old Robinsdale, Minn., girl takes poison.

Jennie Yeamans, popular as a singer and actress a decade ago, dies in New York of tuberculosis.

Six men die in fire in Salvation Army hotel in St. Louis because fire escape law was not observed.

Robert F. Eaton, of Lincoln, Neb., obtains divorce from wife because she believes in "free love."

Chicago life insurance men plan an organization to prosecute violators of the laws against rebating.

Amount alleged to be due Illinois from Illinois Central railroad in back taxes is said to be nearly $5,000,000.

Head master of Eton praises President Roosevelt at the Thanksgiving dinner of the American society in London.

Secretary Root urges the house committee to make liberal appropriations for the employment of tariff experts.

Congressman Minor, of Washington, predicts the passage of the ship subsidy bill at the approaching session of congress.

Cathedral of the Sacred Heart at Richmond, Va., the gift of Thomas F. Ryan and his wife, is formally dedicated.

Waters-Pierce Oil company, a Standard subsidiary, is twice indicted at St. Louis and faces fines aggregating $1,520,000.

American Peace society wants permanent international peace congress and has a program for next Hague meeting.

Russian administration promulgates law giving shorter workday to clerks and commercial employes, as part of plan to secure votes.

Season's record of hunting accidents in Wisconsin and northern Michigan gives a total of twenty-three killed and forty-one wounded.

Prisoners in a Missouri jail tell Gov. Folk in a letter why they are thankful on Thanksgiving day, and say they are blessed above most other people.

Interstate commerce commission prepares to determine its powers to regulate ocean steamship freight rates and interesting legal fight is expected to follow.

Seth Low, former mayor of New York, sends to the comptroller a check for more than $27,000, which he regards due the city from him since 1901 as taxes.

Premier Stolypin is quoted by a St. Petersburg paper as saying that the government will dissolve the new parliament if obstruction tactics are adopted.

Federal grand jury at St. Louis returns two indictments, with seventy-two counts, charging the Waters-Pierce Oil company with accepting rebates and illegal rates on shipments.

Gov. Deneen presents bill against the Illinois Central railroad for $3,000,000 due state and arraigns company's alleged method of figuring compensation so as to benefit road.

Judge Paul W. Linebarger, just home from the Philippines, declares the future of the Filipino depends on the granting of free trade in his commercial relations with the United States.

Former State Senator Davis, in testifying before the interstate commerce commission in New York City, charges the Lackawanna railroad is in a conspiracy with the Standard Oil company.

Sleepy jailers and the substitution of soft iron bars for chilled steel in the construction of the Long Island City, N. Y., prison are responsible for the escape of ten prisoners from that institution.

Mayor Schmitz, of San Francisco, decides to cut loose from "Abe" Ruef for his own protection. Great crowds greet the mayor on his return home and hears his protestations of innocence.

Negroes of New York City, aided by members of their race in Chicago and Philadelphia, are raising a fund for the purpose of helping the discharged troopers of the Twenty-fifth infantry.

President Roosevelt and Senator Tillman are held "unconsciously responsible" for much of the present race agitation by Governor-elect Patterson, of Tennessee, who urges calm justice in dealing with the situation.

Chester Gillette relates without a trace of emotion his version of the way in which Grace Brown, whom he is accused of having murdered, met her death, at the trial in Herkimer, N. Y., asserting she jumped from the boat into the lake, ending her own life.

The official canvass of Iowa state offices shows that thousands of Republicans cut Governor Cummins and voted for the Democratic candidate for governor, leaving the remainder of the ticket blank and he runs 20,000 votes behind the highest man on his party ticket.

Movement to break up mammoth private fortunes by means of federal inheritance and income taxes becomes a vital issue at Washington and is expected to provoke a bitter struggle. Members of congress will introduce bills on the subject at the coming session.

Powerful influence is exerted by men mighty at Washington in a vain effort to ward off the threatened prosecution of land raiders as a result of the interstate commerce commission's inquiry in Salt Lake City and elsewhere. Government will not be swerved from its determination to exact justice.

Interstate commerce commission recommends to President Roosevelt that the public coal lands be withdrawn permanently from entry and developed under government control, thereby breaking up the coal monopoly and producing a revenue which, it is estimated, would pay the expenses of the government.

MAN AND HIS WAYS.

Oxford men have been wonderfully successful in the recent examinations for the Indian, home and colonial civil service. There were eighty-four vacancies, and Oxford men gained fifty-one, the list being headed by Mr. Niemeyer, exhibitor of Balliol, who is 119 marks ahead of the second man. Last year there were eighty-two places and thirty-six were gained by Oxford and twenty-eight by Cambridge.—London Truth.

Ex-Congressman Eddy, of Minnesota, was known as the homeliest man in congress. He wabbled on the silver issue in 1896. A few years later he was to speak in a small town, and on arriving he saw in an opposition newspaper a head-line to the effect that "Two-faced Eddy Speaks Here Tonight." That evening, when he stood before his audience, he said, in his low, sympathetic voice, "You know, ladies and gentlemen, that I'm not the man referred to in this paper. It must be some one else, for there is no one here who does not know that if I had two faces I would wear the other one."—Springfield Republican.

The city man sojourning at Kineo, grown tired of the ridiculous fashion of donning evening clothes for dinner in a backwoods hotel, fancies he would like to strike into the woods and rough it for a while. Whereupon he hires a guide, with whom all the arrangements are naturally left—the buying of provisions and supplies, the selection of the route, etc.—and paddles away in a canoe to camp out. By a happy chance they reach the comfortable farm house on Chesuncook lake the the first afternoon, where, since there will be no mosquitoes to bother, and every comfort of home to be had, the guide suggests they put up for the night. The next morning it is a little rough on the lake, perhaps; so they wait until after dinner for the water to become smooth enough to paddle across. Dinner at the farm house. In the afternoon they proceed leisurely and, by another happy coincidence, reach the comfortable cabin at Mud Pond at about sundown, where they put up for the night. After a week of this sort of "camping out," the sportsman, being guided from one comfortable camp to another, returns to Kineo, presents his unused supplies and $20 or $30 worth of fishing tackle to the guide. Then he goes home and tells wonderful stories of his adventures in the Maine woods.—Outing Magazine.

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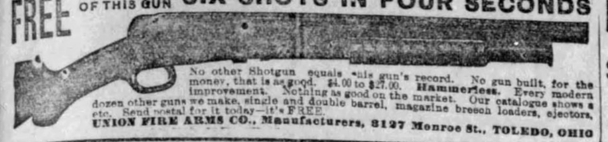

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Our price for the Almanac.....25c
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THE BLADE,
Toledo, O.

WATCHES

The Blade's Revised List for 1906-7—18 and 16 Sizes.

During the past season we have had so many inquiries from our readers for prices on 16 size watches, that we have included them in our list this season. The 16 size watch is now the popular size for men and boys, being very much lighter in weight, smaller in size, and thinner than the 18 size.

With the exception of the 3-O size watches, which are Dueber-Hampden movements, we shall handle this season only Waltham and Elgin movements. The reputation and reliability of these movements are so well known to our readers that they need no further recommendation from us.

The cases used in our watches this season are the very best grade of 25-year and 20-year gold filled cases on the market. We make no extra charge this season for hand engraved cases in the 25-year grade.

We guarantee everything we offer you to be just exactly as represented,

And you will find our prices lower than you can purchase the same quality for elsewhere.

The Waltham and Elgin watches are all stem wind and stem set. The 3-O size Dueber-Hampden watches are stem wind and lever set. The 3-O size watches are the smallest ladies' watches made. They are very dainty and may be worn as chatelaines.

All Watches are sent by registered mail.

We can supply any movement made by the Waltham or Elgin companies, and will be pleased to quote prices.

This offer is intended only for Blade subscribers. We desire to give our subscribers the advantage of the best quality of everything at the very lowest price.

MOVEMENTS.

Nickel—Fifteen jewels (settings); quick train; exposed pallets; cut expansion balance; Breguet hairspring; polished oval regulator; sunk second dial; nickel index; dust ring; damaskeened plates.

Nickel—Seven jewels; quick train; exposed pallets; cut expansion balance; Breguet hairspring; polished oval steel regulator; sunk second dial; nickel index; dust ring; damaskeened plates.

Men's Watches

No. 100—18 size, 25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $14.00

No. 101—18 size, 25-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $11.50

No. 102—16 size, 25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $15.00

No. 103—16 size, 25-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $12.25

No. 104—18 size, 25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $15.50

No. 105—18 size, 25-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $12.50

No. 106—16 size, 25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $17.00

No. 107—16 size, 25-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $14.50

No. 108—18 size, 20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $12.50

No. 109—18 size, 20-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $9.75

No. 110—16 size, 20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $12.75

No. 111—16 size, 20-year open-face, 7-jeweled works $10.00

No. 112—18 size, 20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $13.50

No. 113—18 size, 20-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $10.50

No. 114—16 size, 20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $15.00

No. 115—16 size, 20-year open-face, 15-jeweled works $12.50

Nickel Silver Cases

No. 116—18 size, 7-jeweled works $5.30

No. 117—16 size, 7-jeweled works $6.75

No. 118—18 size, 15-jeweled works $6.60

No. 119—16 size, 15-jeweled works $8.75

Ladies' 6 Size

No. 120—25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $12.50

No. 121—25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $13.50

No. 122—20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $11.00

No. 123—20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $12.25

Ladies' O Size

No. 124—25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $14.00

No. 125—25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $17.50

No. 126—20-year hunting case, 7-jeweled works $13.00

No. 127—20-year hunting case, 15-jeweled works $16.50

Ladies' 3-O Size

No. 128—"The 400" 25-year hunting case, 17-jeweled, Dueber-Hampden works $18.50

No. 129—"The Diadem," 25-year hunting case, 15-jeweled, Dueber-Hampden works $15.00

No. 130—"Molly Stark," 25-year hunting case, 7-jeweled, Dueber-Hampden works $13.75

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TO CALL UP SMOOT CASE.

Washington, Nov. 28.—Senator Burrows, chairman of the committee on privileges and elections today said that he would call up the case of Senator Smoot of Utah at the first opportunity. He added that he hoped to get a vote very soon and if possible to do so before the holiday recess.

NEARLY SEVEN BILLIONS

Value of Year's Crop Is Half a Billion Dollars More Than Last Year.

Washington, Nov. 29.—"The economic revolution in the art and science of agriculture," says Secretary Wilson's tenth annual report to the President, issued today, "continued during 1906, with tremendous results on the national prosperity. The value of crops continues to rush forward beyond comprehension; crops are straining the freight-carrying ability of the railroads; and the farmer, alive to the importance of the place that he occupies in the nation, offers this yearly account of himself to the people." According to the estimates of the department, the year's farm production has a value of nearly six thousand eight hundred million dollars, about a half billion more than the value of 1905, and over two billions more than in the year of the last census.

Corn continues to occupy the place of honor at the top of the list, with an estimated value of eleven hundred millions; next comes the cotton crop, which, including seed, should be worth about six hundred and forty millions. Hay is third with six hundred millions yearly, and wheat is fourth with four hundred and fifty millions. Next come oats, $300,000,000; potatoes, $150,000,000; barley, $65,000,000; tobacco, $55,000,000. Sugar beets, the ninth crop, showed the most remarkable increase of all, raising from seven millions in 1899 to thirty-four millions this year. The total value of sugar, syrup and molasses approximated $75,000,000.

"On the whole," continues the report, "crop values have been neither notably high or low in comparison with recent years, but the high price level in the general average has raised the total crop value somewhat as compared with 1905 and the high preceding years. To reach a still higher point in this series of high annual values is an achievement worthy of attention."

The report contains some interesting figures on meat production, which show the hog as a very important factor in the nation's economic situation. In 1900, the meat of hogs, including lard, exceeded the weight of beef and veal by half a billion pounds, and was over eight times as much as that of lamb and mutton. In no single state of Iowa the 1906 production exceeded the total export of 1900. Meat contributes one-third or more of the nutriments of the national dietary. An increase of one-fourth of a cent per pound, it is estimated, in the national average retail price of meat would raise the nation's bill by $41,000,000.

Tuberculosis in hogs, the report says, is due to feeding on skim milk or separator refuse, and the practice of allowing them to follow cattle in the feed lot. Hog cholera vaccine has proven a success during the present year, and the blackleg vaccine distributed free by the department made a considerable decrease in the death-rate from this cause.

The meat inspection laws receive special attention. Over thirteen hundred experts have been added to the inspecting force, and more than one thousand packing plants are now under surveillance. The pure food law is to be enforced with equal vigor. Grain standardization is receiving the undivided attention of two laboratories, where a thorough study in the present methods of grain grading is going on. Much work has been done in the investigation of seed adulteration and in carrying on the campaign for good seed.

During the year several valuable plants have been introduced into America, among them being Siberian and Arabian alfalfas, and the Tangier pea, which has yielded as high as nine tons of green feed per acre. The best foreign varieties of rushes have been secured for the benefit of the matting industry of the country. Kharkof wheat, the hardiest of winter grains, has proven a success and has thoroughly established itself by raising the yield per acre by an average of five bushels.

The work of the dairy division has been considerably extended during the year, and valuable results have been obtained from investigations in the manufacture and cold storage of butter and cheese and the production and delivery of milk. More scientific methods in dairying, it is pointed out, are needed, for it is estimated that one-fourth of the dairy cows of the country do not pay for their feed, and one-half give no profit at all.

Improved methods in poultry raising are expected to increase the egg production per hen by at least a dozen a year within a generation, and a still larger increase is within the bound of probability. If this year's hens had laid an extra dozen apiece, says the report, the value of the egg crop would have been raised by $50,000,000.

Splendid results have already been secured by the new forest reserve policy, which has substituted scientific methods for the shortsighted ways of the past, so costly to the country. About eleven million acres were added to the forest reserve during the past year, and before long they will pay for themselves without sacrificing the interest of the future to those of the present. The reserves have proven beneficial both to the lumbering industry and to the public. They work counter to no industry, and retard the beneficial use of no resource; and they will prove of incalculable value, not only to the west, but to the country at large.

Good roads work has occupied a part of the time of the department, and department experts and advice have been freely lent to the communities interested in the good roads movement. Wherever possible, object-lesson roads are being constructed, the communities furnishing the material and the labor, the department furnishing engineers to supervise the work and in some cases a large part of the necessary machinery. Tar and oil to keep down dust, have been experimented with, giving gooo results, tarred roads being found in good condition after seven months of hard usage. Various road materials have also been under investigation, and some new mixtures of fented with, giving good results on macadam roads. The department has been co-operating with the postoffice department in connection with the rural free delivery service, and has secured beneficial results.

Nutrition and digestibility of food products have been under investigation—nuts in California, cereal breakfast foods in Maine and Minnesota, and meat in Illinois, and much interesting and valuable information has been gathered. Cheese has been found to possess high nutritive qualities, to be fully assimilated and much more easily digested than has been hitherto supposed. The nutrition bulletins of the department are in use as textbooks at many educational institutions.

Secretary Wilson is optimistic regarding the future of agriculture in the United States. He points out that the farm is still ahead of the mill and the workshop as a producer of exports, and he shows that the nation has no reason to fear that agriculture will not keep pace with its needs. The mighty production of the past third of a century has come out of an agriculture with serious faults, yet not without its economic justification. Pioneers must have buildings and machinery even at the expense of the soil, but with an increased demand, the farmer will respond with an increased production. The corn crop can be increased one-half per acre within twenty-five years, and the same is true of other grain. Education will open the power of the soil to him and the farmer will not fail the nation if the nation does not fail the farmer.

NO BUSINESS IS DONE

Second Session of 59th National Legislature Opened.

Washington, Dec. 3.—Victors and vanquished foregathered in the hall of the House today to congratulate and sympathize with one another over the results of the November ballot.

The crowds came early and when the speaker's gavel fell at 12 o'clock the galleries were jammed with gaily dressed women who added much to the picturesqueness of the scene. The appearance of Speaker Cannon was the signal for a hearty round of applause from both members and the galleries which lasted until he brought the gavel down convening the last session of the 59th congress.

Immediately following the prayer of the chaplain the roll was called by states.

No effort was made to transact business, even in the committee rooms. The day was given over absolutely to receptions and the formal business of opening the session. Practically all of the veterans of the Senate were on hand, most of them looking hale and hearty as if their summer's rest, followed by a busy campaign, had agreed with them. One of the familiar faces most missed was that of Senator Allison. He has arranged to remain at his home at Dubuque, Iowa, until after the holiday recess, leaving the work of organization for the younger members. This is the first session in many years that he has not been present to take a hand in the organization. His friends were delighted to learn that he had recovered from his illness of last session and will be here to take charge of his important work at the head of the appropriations committee and as chairman of the Republican steering committee just as soon as there is need for his presence. Senator Pettus, the oldest member, who was not well at the close of the last session, was one of the first to arrive at the capitol. He sticks to his pet phrase of telling his colleagues how "young" he is when reference is made to his advanced years.

Vice President Fairbanks fairly beamed upon the two or three score of senators who sought him out in his room before the senate opened. Senator Spooner is expected during the day, Senators Foraker, Aldrich, Hale, Frye, Burrows, Lodge and other leaders on the Republican side were in their committee rooms early. Both of the New York senators, Platt and Depew, arrived two days ago, to be present at the opening session. Most of the prominent Democrats were in attendance, one exception being Senator Bailey, who left Washington a few days ago for his home in Texas.

SENATE GETS NOMINATIONS

Cabinet Changes and Supreme Bench Appointment Are Sent In.

Washington Dec. 3.—Three raps with the traditional little ivory gavel in the hand of Vice-President Fairbanks brought sudden stillness of the thronged galleries surrounding the senate chamber and ushered in the first minute of the senate's last session of the 59th congress at noon today. The scene in the chamber had been one of increasing animation during the preceding hour and a half. Before ten o'clock the galleries began to fill and occasionally a senator would stroll into the chamber, which bore none of the usual floral signs of the beginning of a session. As the hour of noon approached the floor of the chamber began to be the gathering place of senators. Senator Teller of Colorado, was the first to take his seat, a full half hour before the gavel fell. The venerable Senator Platt, of New York, came in leaning heavily on the arm of an attendant. Senator Daniel, of Virginia, came next, and Senator Benson, of Kansas. Senator Depew, of New York, took his place early in the row with his colleague.

For fifteen minutes before noon there was a general reception on the floor with greetings and congratulations. When the signal for the session was given the senators, seventy-six of whom were in their places, rose to their feet and the venerable chaplain, Edward Everett Hale, pronounced the invocation.

The roll was called following the prayer when Senator Dupont, of Delaware, took the oath of office, being presented at the bar of the senate by his colleague, Senator Allee.

On motion of Senator Hale, of Maine, which was agreed to, the vice-president appointed Mr. Hale and Mr. Perkins as a committee to join a similar committee from the house to notify the President that congress was in session and ready to proceed to business.

On motion of Mr. Aldrich (R. I.) 12 o'clock was fixed as the daily hour of meeting. Senator Cullom secured the adoption of a resolution instructing the clerk of the senate to inform the house that it had a quorum present and was in session. After the introduction of resolutions by Senator Penrose, asking for information regarding the discharge, of the negro troops, Senator Hale announced that the President would have a message before the senate in a few moments relating to nominations. To await this a recess for ten minutes was taken at 12:15. On receipt of nominations from the White House, the senate at 12:25 went into executive session.

The nominations sent in were:

Secretary of the treasury, Geo. B. Cortelyou.

Attorney-General, Charles J. Bonaparte.

Postmaster-General, Geo. Von L. Meyer.

Secretary of the navy, Victor H. Metcalf.

Secretary of the interior, James R. Garfield.

Secretary of Commerce and Labor, Oscar S. Straus.

Associate Justice of the supreme court, Wm. H. Moody.

At 12:45 the senate adjourned until tomorrow.

TARIFF AND NEW BANK

Philippines Need These for Future Prosperity.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The annual report of the bureau of insular affairs of the war department emphasizes two legislative matters before congress on which it says depend, to a large extent, the future prosperity of the Philippines. One is the bill reducing the tariff on Philippine products to 25 per cent of the Dingley rates for sugar and tobacco, and making all other entries free; and the other is a measure providing for the establishment of an agricultural bank in the islands.

During the year 300 miles of railway have been surveyed and construction is to be pushed. No purchases of silver bullion have been made during the year for Filipino coins. The report says that 184 Filipino students have been in schools in the United States, at the expense of the Philippine government.

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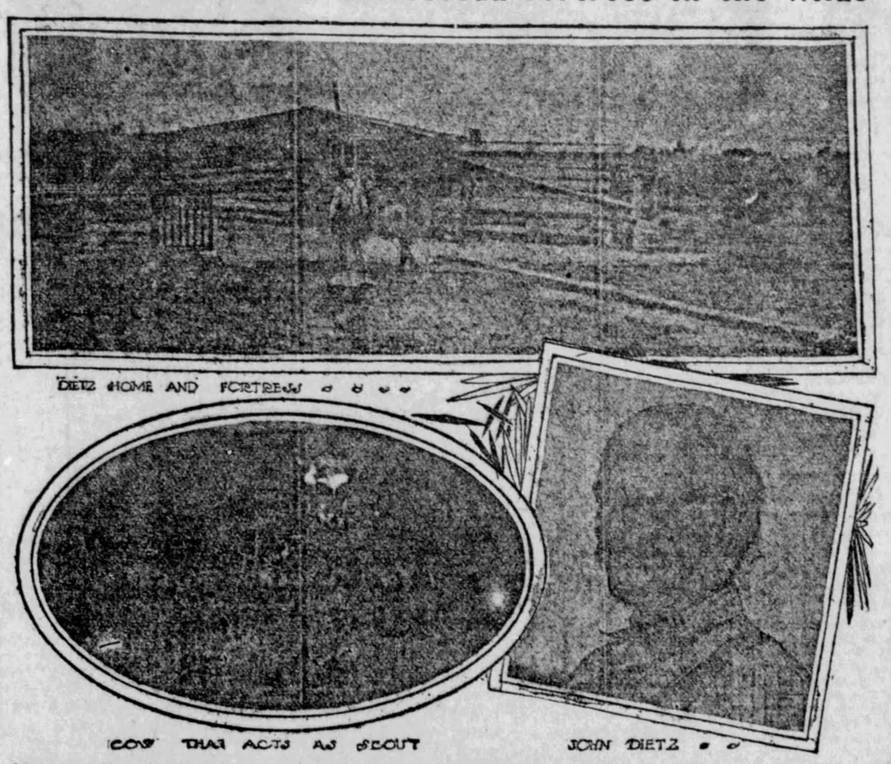
John Deitz and His Homestead Fortress in the Wilds



Milwaukee, Nov. 30.—One of the most picturesque figures in the west today is John Dietz, of Cameron Dam, who in defense of what he believes to be his rights has torn the state into conflicting fractions, made history by the page, writing into the state record one of the most interesting chapters since its foundation.

Four years ago he was just a plain lumber jack, homesteader and woodsman, known only to a little circle. Today he stands forth one of the prominent figures of the state. He first came into prominence three years ago with his rifle, single handed, he met and drove back panic-stricken a sheriff's posse that, armed with the orders of the court, attempted to arrest him. Since that time he has successfully defied the court and authorities, standing on what he honestly believes to be his rights. Three attacks have he and his family repulsed. The last and most important came last summer when Sheriff Gylland, with a posse armed with rifles attempted to rush the homestead and capture Dietz. They were thrown back, leaving one of their number wounded in the woods, dropped at their whisper that "Dietz is coming."

Now a fourth attack is impending. That it will end in bloodshed no one who has met the homesteader doubts for a moment. Dietz says that he will never be taken from his holding except dead and his family, a wife and five children will share his fate. All except the two little ones are good shots with the rifle and the casualties will not be all on one side.

Yet technically outlawed as he is, John Dietz is far from the outlaw that he is pictured in most minds. A big giant of a fellow, his blue eyes look one steadily in the face with a good-natured smile in their depths until his wrongs are mentioned and then they flash in a manner that makes the visitor wonder that anyone would willingly provoke his wrath.

The history of Dietz's trouble with the big lumber company, which may end in one of the bloodiest tragedies the state has known, began to be made when Dietz was employed by the Mississippi River Logging company to look out for the interests of the company up in Sawyer county. This he did with the same thoroughness and fidelity that he now shows in defending his own. That he was faithful is shown by correspondence which he had with the company. He had charge of the dam which the company used in its logging operations. For these services, he asserts, he was to receive $1 a day and supplies. He worked for the company under this contract for $45 days. He was to receive his pay in land. Then came a change in officials, and the new man knew nothing, or said he did not, of the contract made by his predecessors. Dietz was finally told that if he would get the "O. K." of the foreman, named Milligan, to his bill, it would be allowed. Dietz traveled up through the woods to the camp where Milligan had headquarters and asked the foreman to sign the bill. Milligan thought it a good joke, and so did the force of lumberpacks in the shanty, following the lead of their chief.

Then followed a Homeric combat worthy of an epic poem. Milligan was a big man, equal to Dietz in strength, and was in the midst of his own crowd. Taking no thought of this, spurred on by his wrongs, Dietz attacked him. It was a fight to be remembered. When it ended Milligan, who was known as the bully of the camp, lay stretched out on the floor and remained in bed for many days before he could get out. One of his satellites who tried to interfere in his behalf was knocked unconscious. Then, the Berserker blood raging in his brains, Dietz challenged the entire camp to come out and meet him singly, in pairs, or together. The challenge was not accepted, and Dietz left the camp undetterred.

Soon after this episode Dietz moved to some property owned by his wife at Camden Dam, another dam used by the company in logging. This is his present holding and the scene of the warfare that has excited the state for several years. Surveyor Sargent ran the lines for Dietz, and it was found that the dam was located on one of the Dietz forties. Then Dietz put in a claim for toll on logs which had been run through the dam. He asserted that the statute price was ten cents a thousand, and on this basis put in a bill for $10,000. The claim was carried to the company by the surveyor, who returned a few days later with an offer of $500 and a threat to blow out the end of the dam not on the Dietz property if he refused.

Finding this did not work, the company had Sargent swear out a warrant for assault, but this fell through. Then Judge Parrish issued an injunction order restraining Dietz from interfering with the dam. This was the beginning of real trouble. Dietz believed his private rights were endangered, and knowing that if he went into court the company, with its long purse, would certainly get the better of him, determined to pay no attention to the courts, but hold his own with a strong hand.

He became the fighting man of the Thornapple river, and so has remained to the present day. He sent warning to the company's men, who occupied a cabin on the other side of the river, that he would shoot the first man who attempted to interfere with the dam or try to serve papers on him. He purchased arms and ammunition, stocked his humble home with provisions, and settled down for a fight which he knew would come. Judge Parrish issued a bench warrant for contempt and ordered the sheriff to bring Dietz into court. The sheriff tried to obey the court and plunged into the woods with a posse. The next heard of them they were back where they started, telling dreadful stories of Dietz and his prowess with a rifle. One man was brought in with a bullet hole in his back, which the deputies declared was given him by Dietz. The friends of the latter asserted the members of the posse got drunk and in a row the shot was fired. However this may be, Dietz was made the subject of another warrant charging assault with intent to kill. The sheriff refused to make another atttempt to serve the warrant and was himself lodged in jail for contempt.

The last and best planned expedition against the Dietz fortress came last July, when Sheriff Gylland managed to bring a posse of half a score of men up almost to the house before Dietz was aware of his danger. All that saved him was an old cow. As the deputies were crawling through the bushes to surround the house the cow, startled, followed them with her head. Her strange actions attracted the attention of one of the children, who caught sight of a man's hat and gave the alarm. Dietz and his sons, who were making hay, ran for the house and were met by his wife and daughter with their rifles. They had hardly seized these when Clarence, the oldest son, was bowled over with a bullet. Crazed with rage, Dietz ran forward, and, catching sight of one of the posse behind a stump, pumped bullets at him, hitting him three times. He managed to crawl off and was dragged and carried by his comrades across the little river to the company's cabin, Dietz refusing to follow once they were off his land. The posse started for Winter with the wounded man.

In the forest some one yelled "Dietz is coming," and the gang scattered, leaving the wounded man half naked on the ground. He managed to crawl to a settler's cabin after a day and night in the woods, was given assistance and afterward was brought back to Milwaukee, where the posse was recruited. He finally recovered, but cannot be induced to make another try for the homesteader.

FOR NATION'S DEFENSE

Warship Squadrons as Arranged by Navy Department.

WANTS VICE ADMIRALS.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The grade of vice-admiral will be revived in the navy department if the navy department adopts the recommendation made by Rear Admiral Converse, chief of the bureau of navigation, in his annual report. He says at least two vice-admiraships should be created for the commanders of the Atlantic and Asiatic fleets, who will soon have under them subordinate rear admirals and a large number of ships.

Washington, Nov. 30.—The completed plans for the organization of the fighting vessels of the navy in two fleets for service on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States in such manner that the whole force may be readily mobilized in cases of emergency, is announced by Rear Admiral Converse, chief of the bureau of navigation of the navy department in his annual report made public today. The concentration of the battle fleet in the American waters and the assignment of all vessels therein to the command of one flag officer, will be completed about January 1 next. Rear Admiral Converse said that owing to our responsibilities in the Philippines and the far east generally an adequate naval force is needed in the Pacific ocean. The assignment of the ships of the battle line to Atlantic waters and of cruisers and gunboats to Pacific waters is in accordance with present strategic requirements. The tentative assignment of vessels is as follows:

Atlantic Fleet—First squadron, first division: Connecticut, Louisiana, Maine, Missouri. Second division: Georgia, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Virginia. Second squadron, third division: Alabama, Illinois, Kearsarge, Kentucky. Fourth division: Ohio, Indiana, Iowa. Third squadron, fifth division: Tennessee, Washington, St. Louis. Sixth division: Columbia, Des Moines, Cleveland, Tacoma. Fourth squadron, seventh division: Dixie, Marietta, Newport, Don Juan De Austria. Eighth division: Prairie, Dubuque, Paducah, Scorpion.

The seventh and eighth divisions will be held in reserve when their services are no longer required for police and patrol duty.

In reserve: Texas, Brooklyn.

Second torpedo flotilla: Hopkins, Lawrence, Macdonough, Whipple, Truxtun, Worden.

Third torpedo flotilla: Wilkes, Blakely, DeLong, Rodgers, Stockton.

Asiatic fleet—First squadron, first division: West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Colorado.

Second division: Baltimore, Chattanooga, Galveston, Cincinnati.

Second squadron, third division: Raleigh, Concord, Helena, Wilmington.

Fourth division: Callao, Elcano, Quiros, Villatobos.

Coast defense: Monterey, Monadnock.

First torpedo flotilla: Bainbridge, Barry, Dale, Chauncey, Decatur.

Pacific squadron, first division: Charleston, Milwaukee, Albany, New Orleans.

Second division: Chicago, Yorktown, Boston, Princeton.

Fourth torpedo flotilla: Preble, Paul Jones, Perry, Farragut, Goldsborough, Rowan.

At an early date it is expected that the Asiatic fleet and the Pacific squadron will be merged into one Pacific fleet under the supreme command of a flag officer of highest rank in the same manner as the Atlantic fleet is now organized.

The Bureau of Navigation is making every endeavor to secure a battleship strength of 16 in the Atlantic fleet, divided into two squadrons which will furnish every opportunity for the practice of battle tactics and will enable the high officers to acquire facility in the exercise of a large fleet and in maneuvering one homogenous squadron against another.

CLASH OF AUTHORITIES

Congressional Committee Up Against New Spelling.

Washington, Nov. 28.—The house committee on the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill took advantage of the appearance before it yesterday of Public Printer Stillings to discuss the question of simplified spelling in congressional documents. The subject indeed, was forced upon the committee by the fact that as the bill came before it, it represented both the old and the new styles of orthography, the estimates of the treasurer being in the new style and the reproductions of the current law in the old. The discussion dealt almost exclusively with the questions of practicability and cost. Attention was called to the fact that the supreme court of the United States had refused to recognize the executive order for a change of spelling, and the question was raised whether by legislative enactment that tribunal, representing a co-ordinate branch of the government, could be compelled to adopt the modern system. The same question arose with reference to the executive departments, the question there being whether congress could compel these dpartments to return to the orthodox spelling by legislative enactment. There were so many points at issue that there were no attempts made to reach a conclusion, but owing to the fact that the bill must be arranged exclusively in one style or the other, the selection cannot be long postponed.

The public printer agreed with some members of the committee that an effort to maintain different systems for the executive and legislative branches would involve considerable extra expense.

MORE PULAJANES KILLED

Another Outlaw Band Broken Up by Constabulary.

Manila, Dec. 1.—A force of constabulary under the command of Major Murphy surprised the camp of Pablo, chief of the Pulajanes, on the Island of Samar, at daylight yesterday, Nov. 30. Eleven of the Pulajanes were killed, the chief's son and nine of the band were wounded. Chief Pablo himself escaped, but his wife and daughter were captured. Clothing, arms and papers found were destroyed together with the camp. The capture of Chief Pablo is considered the question of only a few days. There is now only one other chief at large and plans have been arranged to capture or kill him. Gov. Curdy of Samar wires that the breaking up of Chief Pablo's bands signalizes the death knell of Pulajanism in the island.

WANTS REAL EVIDENCE

President Won't Reinstate Negroes on Mere Deduction.

Washington, Nov. 28.—President Roosevelt holds that he has the power to reinstate in the army any of the members of the three companies of the Twenty-fifth regiment of colored infantry who were discharged without honor as a result of the trouble at Brownsville, Texas, some time ago, if the circumstances of any individual case justify such action. Whether he will avail himself of that power, according to the president, will depend on such evidence that may be presented to him by the men or any more soldiers which will tend to clearly exculpate them from any participation in the incident. This is in conformance with the announcement he made while away to Secretary Taft, when the latter had telegraphed the president stating that application had been made by a number of persons for a rehearing. The president wants evidence, not deductions, as he told some of his callers yesterday, of nonparticipation before anything may be done.

NO MEDICINE

But Change of Food Gave Final Relief.

Most diseases start in the alimentary canal—stomach and bowels.

A great deal of our stomach and bowel troubles come from eating too much starchy and greasy food.

The stomach does not digest any of the starchy food we eat—white bread, pastry, potatoes, oats, etc.—these things are digested in the small intestines, and if we eat too much, as most of us do, the organs that should digest this kind of food are overcome by excess of work, so that fermentation, indigestion, and a long train of ails result.

Too much fat also is hard to digest and this is changed into acids, sour stomach, belching gas, and a bloated, heavy feeling.

In these conditions a change from indigestible foods to Grape-Nuts will work wonders in not only relieving the distress but in building up a strong digestion, clear brain and steady nerves. A Wash. woman writes:

"About five years ago I suffered with bad stomach—dyspepsia, indigestion, constipation—caused, I know now, from eating starchy and greasy food.

"I doctored for two years without any benefit. The doctor told me there was no cure for me. I could not eat anything without suffering severe pain in my back and sides, and I became discouraged.

"A friend recommended Grape-Nuts and I began to use it. In less than two weeks I began to feel better and inside of two months I was a well woman and have been ever since.

"I can eat anything I wish with pleasure. We eat Grape-Nuts and cream for breakfast and are very fond of it." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a reason."

$3.75 THIS 20 YEAR Guaranteed Watch FOR $3.75

High grade genuine American full seven ruby jeweled watch, stem wind and stem set, quick train lever escapement, a perfect timepiece, guaranteed to keep accurate time for 20 years. Fitted in richly engraved gold finished hunting case, price $3.75. In 15 year guaranteed gold filled hunting case, price $2.50. In solid coin silver hunting case, price $6.75. Positively the greatest bargain on the face of the earth. **SEEING IS BELIEVING.** Send this advertisement to us, with your name, post office and express office address, and we will send the watch and a beautiful chain complete to your express office for examination. You examine them at your express office and if as represented pay express agent the price named and express charges and the watch and chain are yours. State whether you want a Ladies' Watch or a Gentleman's Watch, we have them in both sizes. Also mention which price watch you want, $3.75, $2.50 or $6.75. Address R. E. CHALMERS & CO., 356 DEARBORN ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

EXCISE RECEIPTS GROW

And Expenses of Collection Are Decreasing Proportionately.

Washington, Dec. 3.—The annual report of Commissioner of Internal Revenue John W. Yerkes for the past fiscal year shows total receipts of $249,102,738, an excess of $14,914,762 over the preceding year, while the receipts for the current year show receipts for the first three months of the current year an increase of collections of $4,561,131 over the corresponding months last year. Commissioner Yerkes says he believes the total revenues in the current fiscal year will aggregate $260,000,000. During the year there was collected from the tax on distilled spirits $32,965,911; on fermented liquors, $54,651,636; on tobacco, $48,422,697.

The cost of collecting the internal revenues during the year was 1.90 per cent against 2.01 last year.

The commissioner recommends a charge of 20 cents for each stamp issued to rectifiers or wholesale liquor dealers for use on packages prepared and sent out by them, and a charge of 25 cents per gallon on all brandy withdrawn for fortification purposes.

The report discusses the enactment of the free alcohol bill passed at the last session of congress, says great benefit will be derived by the people at large from this legislation and says that instead of the production of alcohol being as now confined to large distilleries it is most probable that within the course of a brief period small co-operative distilleries will be constructed throughout the country, operated under governmental supervision, but eventually producing alcohol at a cheaper price and perhaps from cheaper substances than is the rule at present.

The internal revenue suits and prosecutions, pending July 1 last, numbered 2,3 civil and 3,525 criminal. In 59 of the 142 civil suits terminated during the last fiscal year judgments were for the United States, in 49 against the United States, and 34 were either dismissed or discontinued; 12 were appealed to the circuit court of appeals and three to the supreme court. In 2,053 of the 3,267 criminal prosecutions convictions were had. 520 acquittals and 694 were nollied and discontinued.

The quantities of distilled spirits, tobacco, etc., on which tax was paid during the last two fiscal years, are as follows, the figures being for the fiscal years 1905 and 1906 respectively:

Spirits distilled from apples, peaches, grapes, pears, pineapples, oranges, apricots, berries, prunes, figs and cherries, in gallons, 1,585,624 and 1,781,581; imports distilled from materials other than apples, peaches, grapes, pears, pineapples, oranges, apricots, berries, prunes, figs and cherries, in gallons, 116,143,732 and 122,732,822; wine made in imitation of champagne, etc., bottles (pint), number 6,878 and 72.

Fermented liquors, barrels, 49,459,540 and 54,651,637.

Cigars weighing more than three pounds per thousand, number 6,860,914,577 and 7,174,895,223; cigars weighing not more than three pounds, per thousand, number 728,422,620 and 895,867,426; cigarets weighing no more than three pounds, per thousand, number 3,268,212,740 and 3,783,266,213.

Cigarets weighing more than three pounds per thousand, number 4,420,903 and 9,493,607; snuff, pounds, 21,381,881 and 22,702,338; tobacco, chewing and smoking, pounds, 334,489,110 and 354,915,499; oleomargarine, pounds, 49,881,644 and 53,146,659; filled cheese, pounds, none and 5; adulterated butter, pounds, 3,671 and 20,610; process or renovated butter, pounds, 61,366,596 and 54,016,220.

The revenue from taxes imposed and collected on domestic and imported tobacco manufacturers paid by stamps and including miscellaneous collections during the year amounted to $48,422,997.

The report shows the total number of cigars manufactured during the year was 7,551,510,893, an increase of 174,841,151, and cigarets numbered 3,673,727,441, increase 229,733. There was a net increase of 3,447,564 pounds in the production of oleomargarine.

STOPS SHORT COURSES

Chinese Students to Japan to Stay Longer.

Washington, Nov. 29.—Sir Chentung Liang-Cheng, the Chinese minister, says there is much misunderstanding about the action of China in limiting the number of young Chinese students who are to go into Japan to complete their education. There are about 12,000 Chinese students in Japan, and of these perhaps 8,000 are Chinese young men who have been highly educated in their home and are in Japan to study for a few months preparatory to becoming teachers in China. The minister says the strict course and then pose as having been prepared especially for some line of work of which the institution made a specialty. Neither did this sort of preparation prove satisfactory to the Chinese. Consequently the Chinese government has decided to forbid the provinces sending young men for such short courses and will insist that three or four-year courses be taken by studnts going to the Japanese schools. There is no intention, the minister says, on the part of China to quit sending its young men to Japanese schools, but the present plan will result in the Chinese getting much more of their education in Japan than they have in previous years. The Chinese minister attaches no importance whatever to reports from the Orient that China is about to boycott Japanese goods and expressed the opinion that this rumor may have risen out of the misunderstanding of the Chinese government's action concerning its students going to Japan.

Sir Chentung Liang-Cheng has just returned from a visit at Amherst, Mass., and called at the state department yesterday to discuss conditions in the Orient.

ARE GRADING BOX RENTS

Uniform Rates for Postoffices Soon to Go in Force.

Washington, Nov. 30.—An order has been issued by First Assistant Postmaster General Hitchcock, effective January 1, looking toward the adoption of uniform rents of rent for boxes in postoffices. The revised rates will affect every postoffice in the United States. The new schedule adopts as the minimum rate for small call boxes in small fourth-class postoffices the amount (ten cents per quarter) now generally charged. From this figure the rates advance according to a carefully graduated scale until they reach a charge for small lockboxes at one postoffice (New York city) of four dollars a quarter, the amount now charged at that office.

It is not the department's intention to make any general increase in box rents. While some rates will be raised others will be considerably lowered, the aim being to correct inequalities and at the same time to produce an average approximate to that of the rates now in force.

FOR HONOR OF COUNTRY

Navy Will Ask Congress to Provide for Entertainments.

Washington, Nov. 30.—Congress will be asked by the bureau of navigation of the navy department to make an appropriation for official entertainments on navy vessels when sent to foreign shores. It will be argued that in their duty of showing the flag and cultivating friendly and diplomatic relations in foreign countries naval officers are forced, for the honor of their service and the country, to spend an appreciable amount of their pay for entertainments whose expense should be borne by the government. In other countries ample provision is made for such expense; in ours such provision is seldom made, and only on extraordinary occasions.

VETERINARY COURSE AT HOME. $1200 year and upwards can be made taking our Veterinary Course at home during spare time; taught in simplest English; Diploma granted; positions obtained for successful students; cost within reach of all; satisfaction guaranteed; particulars free. Ontario Veterinary Correspondence School, London, Can.

MARRY RICH and handsome ladies want to marry. Biz list of descriptions & photos FREE (sealed). STANDARD COR. CLUB, Dept. 7, 108 Avers Avenue, Chicago, Ills.

Ladies Dr. Oliver's Never-Fail Pills. Guaranteed relief within 5 hours. Send stamp. Box 1618, Milwaukee, Wis. **Box Free**

YOUNG MAN, 23 years, would like to meet Lady, with view to matrimony, is worth over $25,000 in real estate, will inherit $10,000. No objection poor

HOUSEHOLD AND YOUNG FOLKS

JENNINGS

EMILY S. BOUTON, EDITOR

Keynotes of Harmony

WEDNESDAY.

The heart that is cheerful at present will have no solicitude for the future, and will be able to drink the bitter cups of life, even though frequent and full, with a smile of promise.

THURSDAY.

The love in your heart soon becomes translated into smiles and good cheer. Wherever you go, you are welcome. Whatever you say is a blessing.

FRIDAY.

Nothing is more likely to give hope and courage to the despairing than the thought that there are people who still believe in them.

SATURDAY.

Command inward serenity, be a poised observer; pick up your forces, one by one, until you are master of the art of self-control.

SUNDAY.

Every man and woman is a part, an expression, of the Infinite mind. The Infinite would have every man and woman like unto Himself.

MONDAY.

Of anything that annoys you, make up your mind that it shall not annoy you; this decision will increase the drawing power of your mind.

TUESDAY.

Faith is spiritual knowledge. It is an active, an immediate power for moving events and persons.

Aftermath of Thought About Thanksgiving

EMILY S. BOUTON

I heard a sermon not long ago in which proofs were given that the pilgrims never landed upon Plymouth rock, that they stepped out upon "a bleak and inhospitable shore," but the planting of their sturdy feet upon a particular stone was and is one of those possible things which might have happened, but did not, though this possibility, long considered, finally grew into a fact of popular belief.

I had heard this assertion before, but had always carefully abstained from looking up its truth or falsity, because, being harmless, I enjoyed the picture of the Mayflower riding the stormy waters in the distance, and her boats sent with their precious freight of human beings to land upon the rock which typified their stubborn piety. I was always thankful that it was in that particular spot, so that men, women and children could step thereon with dry feet. It was one of the things which I learned in my childhood and never doubted until the iconoclastic spirit of the age took hold of the matter and proved its untruth. And this was in the face of the existence of a granite boulder over which a pavilion has been erected for its protection, and the fiat gone forth that no vandal shall chip off pieces to carry away as mementos! It is true that the rock is some distance from the shore, so far that even one of the mighty giants of the far-away past would have found it difficult to make of it a landing place. Easier is it to believe that the shore itself has changed shape and position, as sometimes happens.

Evidence has become so strong that I am now constrained to bid farewell to Plymouth rock upon which the pilgrims never landed. Another carefully instilled belief of my childhood swept away, and with it has gone something of the poetry of that time which helped to invest Thanksgiving with its charms. I am wondering whether historical accuracy will ever cast a doubt upon the holding of a special day for giving thanks by the pilgrim fathers, a custom which has been handed down through all the years and is dear to the heart of the nation.

It is true that it has gone far away from its original intention. Feasting is made its emphasis, and not thankfulness. The dinner table is the central thought; eating the important occupation. And then comes the aftermath of suffering in consequence, instead of the joyous memory of a family reunion. In these reunions, indeed, lies most of the beauty that is left of what the day symbolized in the beginning.

With all that, however, and with the disappearance of a belief in the landing of the pilgrims upon a rock typifying their sturdy faith in their religion, it is well to have an annual Thanksgiving Day, for even though it may be perverted in its keeping, there is yet an acknowledgment collectively and individually that we have something to be thankful for. It may be that in some cases it seems like the old woman who had but two teeth left, but who was duly grateful because they came together, and could therefore be made useful.

It is pleasant to look backward to the day just past, which was so joyfully celebrated all over this broad land, and reckon how much there was to make the joy bells ring out thanksgivings. To the optimist the changes which are being wrought, while they seem, in many cases, to bring present confusion — something which always belongs to a state of transition—promise better conditions for the future. Many of these things seem to sweep away what has appeared in-wrought into our very nature, and yet the end will be well.

In the December number of her magazine, The Nautilus, Elizabeth Towne gives a column to the mention of what will make the sunshine of the future, gratitude for which belongs not to one day alone but to every day of the year. The column foots up well, although she declares it is only a beginning. Here is a part of her list:

The government and municipal house cleanings; the trust prosecutions; the pure food and railroad bills; municipal ownership; Ben Lindsey sending fathers to jail for neglecting the children, and sending the children to school; Sophie Wright educating New Orleans; Jane Addams in Chicago; Nathan Straus feeding New York babies clean milk and reducing infant mortality forty-one per cent. or so a year; kindergartens and day nurseries; village improvement movements; the school city and manual training in schools; giving slum children summer outings; publishing new (and optimistic) thought in the daily and weekly press as well as in monthly and special journals; everybody taking an interest in everybody else; * * * making jails over into educational institutions; summer and night schools; making public opinion and laws against child labor; * * * and saving Niagara Falls and Mt. Tom for the people.

The above does not more than begin to cover the ground as she declares, but it is enough to show that, as a people, we made no mistake in observing the Thanksgiving Day just counted into the past.

No doubt the pessimist would say with a growl that he could make an equally long list of conditions to be mourned over but what is the use of it. Why keep the eyes fixed upon the shadows when the light is growing in brightness which will finally drive them away?

There are many other signs besides those mentioned that the people are awake and thinking to a good purpose, that purpose shaping into rapid action. Science is coming slowly but surely to the support of ethical and spiritual law, by a final and practical recognition of etheric forces, the existence of which has only recently been admitted. Wireless telegraphy, telepathy, the discovery of radium, the proven influence of thought and states of feeling upon the physical condition as demonstrated by the experiments of Prof. Gates of the Washington Psychological Laboratory, and many other recent scientific discoveries which cannot be denied even by the greatest skeptics—all show that humanity is taking an evolutionary step forward that is a cause for Thanksgiving.

Lillian Whiting in her latest book puts a truth in her own vivid way:

We are on the threshold of a wonderful era of progress, the secret of which is that man is entering on that higher life of the ethereal realm. This is not mere speculation; it is demonstrated by the way in which he is using ethereal forces. He is becoming at home, so to speak, in the ethereal; he is learning how to harness and command a new range of power. There is no hard and fast line between the physical and the ethereal realms; the one shades into the other and as man advances the horizon line recedes. The unknown becomes the known; the mysterious becomes the familiar. The two conditions that most strongly accentuated the difference between the physical and ethereal—Time and Space—are being increasingly overcome by scientific discovery and achievement. When the steamer, with electricity as its motive power shall cross the ocean within three days, we see how Space and Time are largely overcome. All the old and clumsy methods of living are being replaced by the new and subtle methods.

This being true—and there can be no question about it—what may we not expect in the near future of wonderful discovery and through it of improved conditions? The present era of confusion will pass away to give place to one of greater harmony and a higher conception of the real purpose of life. It is well that there should be a holiday season—beginning with Thanksgiving—through which we may sing a song of thankfulness for the possibilities of a spiritual unfoldment already begun and which will have no ending.

Oh, but it is not the years—it is I—it is you;
We touch all laws and tally all antecedents;
We stand amid time, beginningless and endless—
We stand amid evil and good.

The Cozy Corner

TWO WAYS OF HOUSEKEEPING.

Once we kept house for the eyes of the neighbors;
Then we had nothing but show for our labors.
Now we keep house for our comfort—our own,
And 'round us are odors of hearts-ease full blown.

—Good Housekeeping.

Last week we gave the advice of a housekeeper from the far west, and today comes one from the good old eastern state of Connecticut telling "Disconsolate Jane" how it is done down east.

I have received much help and inspiration from the Cozy Corner letters, and when I read the appeal of "Disconsolate Jane" I thought there will be plenty of answers to that, but as I have seen none so far, I am wondering if she took Harry's advice, and let the housecleaning go. It is quite an undertaking, but it is such a satisfaction when it is done that it pays. My way is to take one room at a time, remove all the ornaments; wipe the dust from them and place them in a clothes basket, where they will keep clean. Then remove the furniture, carrying the upholstered things out of doors, where they can be beaten and thoroughly brushed. Take all books and pictures out; dust each one and wipe the glass of the pictures. Pile them up on an unused table and cover with a sheet or calico cover.

If there is a stove, take that out with the pipe and clean them, then lift the carpet carefully so as not to raise a dust, and roll the papers that were under it. Take all out of doors to be cleaned.

Have a bag of flannel to tie over the broom and sweep the walls and ceilings, then whitewash, if necessary.

Next wash the woodwork and windows, then the floor, and while that is drying beat and sweep the carpet and the papers that are to be placed under it. Then "Harry" will be glad to tack it down—as he was probably glad to remove the tacks and take it up. Shades can be laid open on a table and the dust wiped off. If they are the oiled shades any spots can be removed with a damp cloth. When these are up, your draperies hung and the furniture replaced, the room will look so bright and pleasant that "Harry" will think house cleaning is not such a dreadful thing, after all.

Furniture rubbed with a cloth moistened with furniture polish, or even with kerosene, will be much improved, and tarnished picture frames can be made almost as good as new by using a liquid gold paint that can be bought for 15 cents a bottle.—"Experience."

INFORMATION DESIRED.

There is much talk at present about the absolutely necessary expenses for a family of two, or more persons; what is the least such a family can live comfortably upon. Of course there are different ideas of what "comfort" means in such cases, and also a difference between the expenses in the country and city, or even in different cities.

The Blade Household would be glad to receive letters on this subject from any of its readers who can give an itemized list of the cost of rent, fuel, food, clothing, etc., for a family in moderate circumstances. Actual experience is desired, as there has been too many theoretical and supposable lists sent to various papers, some of these are very misleading, and others quite discouraging to those who wish real, helpful information. All communications should be addressed to the Toledo Blade, Household department, and signed with the correct address of the writer as well as by the name to be used in the paper.

CHURCH SUPPERS.

A most successful method of raising money for a church has been to serve a supper on one evening of each week. The evening chosen is usually one when the men would wish to remain down town for an entertainment, or the night of the council meeting, or something that is held on a regular evening. Besides the men, their wives and others who may wish to avoid getting supper at home, will patronize this. A substantial meal is served at 20 cents. The regularity of this supper and the low price charged has made it a very popular affair, and the church has found it a financial success. The materials of the supper are bought at wholesale prices; some of the ladies are assigned each week to attend to the cooking and serving so the burden does not fall heavily on a few. The suppers are, of course, suitable for the season and are served the year around.

Another church has held a Saturday market for five years, with excellent results. It is the regularity of these that makes their success.

A supper once and a while, or a Saturday market at times, will not bring good results as comparatively few know of them, or can risk not being in time to be served, but if it is a sure thing, on a certain day, every week, housekeepers and others will make their arrangements to patronize it.

CHRISTMAS SUGGESTIONS.

In response to the Household editor's request for Christmas suggestions the following directions for useful Christmas gifts have been received from Mrs. Oliver E. Voris, and are heartily appreciated. The first of these is for an article upon which veils may be rolled when not in use:

Take a toy rolling pin, wrap first with a thick layer of cotton batting, then cover with pink or blue outing flannel and finish the ends with small ribbon bows.

From linen crash, cut bibs for the children of a size to suit the age of the little ones for whom they are intended. Finish with a hem, and add a narrow neck strap, fastened at the back with a button.

Pretty cottage curtains may be fashioned from white swiss with large dots. After the length desired is ascertained allow for a two-inch hem at the top and bottom. Run through them a brass or wooden rod which holds them in place at the window. This would be a gift appreciated by any housekeeper.

A new idea for bedroom rugs is to make them from matting of fancy design and bright color. Cut to suitable design and either hem or bind the edges with carpet binding. These are easily kept clean and look very attractive on the floor.

There is only one stimulant that never fails and yet never intoxicates—duty. Duty puts a black cloud over every man—up in his heart, maybe—into which the skylark, happiness, always goes singing.

—Lamartine.

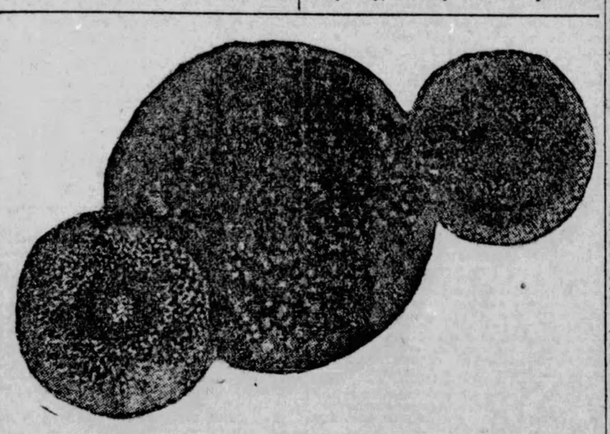
He is only advancing whose heart is getting softer, whose blood warmer, whose brain quicker, whose spirit is entering into living; eace.

—Ruskin.

The Fine Old Braided Rug

"How can I utilize the contents of my rag-bag?" is a question frequently asked, and any suggestions as to the solving of this problem are eagerly sought after. Old pieces of linen, that have become worn and soft with age, can always be utilized by being torn into strips and sewn together, and sent to the weaver to be woven up for bath mats and rag carpeting; but this is not the point at issue, as we want to know how we can use the rags ourselves, without the aid of a weaver or a loom.

One way is to make a braided rug,



BRAIDED RUGS.

the kind seen in nearly every New England home. Is there anything that lends to a room such an atmosphere of thrift and comfort and "hominess" as the braided rug?

Brilliant contrasts in these rugs are sometimes effective, if skill is used in arranging them, but for everyday wear the monotone is advised. The prettiest ones have about three or four shades of one color, with perhaps black introduced as a contrast. Home dyeing usually comes out very uneven, and instead of detracting from the work, it adds to the beauty of the finished rug, as it produces a somewhat cloudy appearance, which makes it of interest. Some people add a piece of black cloth pinked out at the edges to the rug when it is finished, to make it lap the floor.

Many rugs are improved by a stripe of black appearing in the plait with two paler ones. This is especially attractive when it happens to be black velveteen.

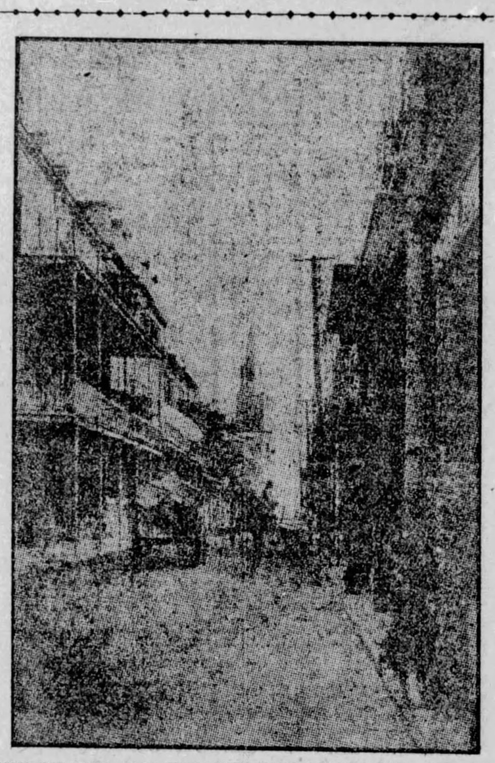
Now as to the actual making of the rugs. Directions are almost superfluous, the process is so simple.

A little practice is necessary to find out what width the rags should be torn. A piece of old white muslin might have to be torn an inch and a half in width, while a strong piece of denim would only need to be half that width. The point is that the plait when finished must be of equal thickness, and these points are only learned by experience. The rags may be torn and plaited quickly, but the strips should be turned in while the rug is being plaited to insure perfectly smooth and finished work.

Most people do them in the rough-and-ready way, as they will not spend the time on the more finished article. It is best to sew the plaits together as you go along, and they should be tightly seamed on the wrong side with very small stitches. Four or five yards of strips can be plaited at once, providing one of the strips is quite short, as this prevents them from getting tangled up, which always happens if three long strips are plaited at once. Many people join the strips together as they go along, as they find it easier to work with them if they are not longer than half a yard, but these points are all decided by individual workers, according to their fancy.

One feature of these rugs that appeals emphatically to the economical housewife is the opportunity they afford for using up otherwise worthless material. Old pieces of dress material, bits of ribbon, old scraps of fine swiss, or even denim or cotton flannel, can any or all of them be utilized in the same rug, as the greater the variety in texture the more attractive the rug becomes. Care must be taken, however (as before hinted), not to mix too many colors, as they become a weariness to the eye if some restraint is not used in this direction.—The Woman's Home Companion.

A Glimpse of Old New Orleans



ONE OF THE OLD NARROW STREETS IN NEW ORLEANS.

New Orleans' chief thoroughfare is Canal street, a broad, modern business street that divides the old town from the new—the foreign city from the American. The latter is comparatively uninteresting, but on the other side of the dividing line the manners and customs of France prevail. French is the principal language and the streets bear French names. The people keep to themselves, and some of them are said never to have crossed Canal street. Indeed, this district is probably more foreign in aspect and life than any other that could be encountered in the United States. Such narrow streets, such queer, balconied houses, such strange little shops, grimy and dark, and so many people of alien features who do not understand English, or who speak it with an unfamiliar accent!

The population is dense, and you see frequent doors where passages lead to dwellings behind those fronting on the streets. Every house has its courtyard, and this is usually paved, and has flowers, vines, shrubs and possibly tall trees growing in it. One article never absent is a cistern—a great, high-hooped affair that will hold several hogsheads. Into it flows the rain-water from the roofs. This water is used for all sorts of household purposes—even drinking it—but it tastes of roofs and receptacles, and most people prefer the Mississippi water when they can get it. The better class of families have river water piped into their houses from the city waterworks and filter it for drinking. Others get water in barrels or bottles from springs a few score miles out in the country.

The courtyard is the children's playground. There their elders loiter, and there the washerwoman does her scrubbing and hangs out the clothes. The buildings around are balconied, and the whole space is a convenient gathering place for rubbish, and never lacks picturesqueness. Often fig trees flourish and ripen their fruit in it, and sometimes it contains lofty magnollas—queenly trees that all summer open their large, white, fragrant blossoms amid the glossy foliage.

Some of the city buildings date back over a century to Spanish times, and their quaint and massive architecture and weather-stained, battered walls have a charm all their own.

It is quite evident to the wanderer in the Creole quarter that the days of glory for this part of the city are of the past. Business and fashion have moved on and left the district stranded on the shores of time, though its decay and tendency to dilapidation doubtless make it more moving to the imagination than it was in its heyday of prosperity.

"Oh, things were very different here before the war," explains the woman who told me about the locality. "The old French part that you now see so shabby was very fine then. Everybody was rich. You could pick up the money by the barrelful. The white people didn't need to do any work. They all had servants. Some of 'em wouldn't even put on their own shoes when they got up in the morning, but had a slave do it. Then the war came and knocked us all down. Everybody lost—lost money, lost property, lost slaves. The change was hardest of all on the Creoles. They had too much pride to work—yes, they would starve rather than work, and so this old part of the city has been poor ever since."

A peculiar characteristic of the city is that family food supplies are largely obtained from markets where many tradesmen congregate in a single great shedlike building. The smaller markets are only open in the morning and later are deserted to myriads of flies and doubtful odors. The early hours of the day are the marketing hours, and much of the buying is done before breakfast, but in the neighborhood of the great French market, near the cathedral and the wharves, there is a coming and going of basket-laden, sunbonneted women all day. A series of widespreading roofs mounted on iron or masonry pillars here shelter a dim and cavernous interior, where you find a wonderful array of fuit, vegetables, turtles, tropical fish—plunder of every variety, both of land and sea and from far and near.—From Highways and Byways of the Mississippi Valley. By Clifton Johnson. Published by Macmillan & Co.

HOLIDAY DESSERTS

The following recipes have been tested and are pronounced excellent:

Cranberry Sauce.

Wash the berries carefully, removing any that are spotted or imperfect, and place in a porcelain lined or earthenware kettle. Cover them with cold water and let them stand where the water will heat gradually. When ready to boil add three-fourths as much sugar as you had berries and let them boil until the skins burst, then pour into the dish in which they are to be served.

If a jelly is desired, run the berries when taken from the water through a colander to remove the skins, then pour the jelly into small glasses or individual molds and set away in a cold place.

A pretty way to serve this jelly is to pour it into a flat pan, about an inch deep, and when cold cut it in little squares and pile them, checkerboard fashion, on a glass plate with a fringe of the fine leaves of celery around the edge of the plate. Pass this to each guest, who will remove a square of the jelly with a tiny pickle fork.

Cocoanut Pudding.

Melt, over hot water, one pound of sugar and one-fourth pound butter. Add one quart of sweet milk and three eggs, reserving the whites of two, the grated rind and the juice of one lemon and one large cocoanut grated or half a package of dessicated cocoanut. Turn into a buttered dish and bake for half an hour in a moderate oven. Make a meringue of the reserved whites of eggs and four tablespoonfuls of sugar, return to the oven to brown slightly and serve either hot or cold.

Sweet Potato Pudding.

Boil two pounds of sweet potatoes, peel, mash and rub through a colander. Season with three-fourths cupful of butter, one cupful sugar, three eggs and one quart of rich milk. Bake in a buttered pudding dish and serve with currant sauce.

To make this sauce—which is excellent with any sweet pudding—beat together until smooth and light a tablespoonful each of butter and corn starch and one-half cupful of sugar. Dissolve one cupful of currant jelly in one cupful of boiling water, thicken with the sugar mixture by cooking until smooth and thick. Serve both pudding and sauce hot.

Peanut Creams.

Break into a bowl the white of an egg; add one tablespoonful of orange juice and stir into this as much powdered sugar as possible. Remove the brown skins from a teacupful of peanuts, chop very fine and mix into the sugar paste; roll into small balls, then roll in pulverized sugar and lay on buttered plates to dry.

M. G. R.

"Gray Eyes" has asked that I send a pumpkin for the Thanksgiving dinner. It may be too late for that, but if it is this offer holds good for Christmas, and "Zack Stubbs" may send his collecting car around at any time. The "pumpkin" will make excellent pie, and to help out I will send—as my colored "mammy," whose hair is as white as snow, bids me—"oranges, bananas, chittlings, some cane juice and a cotton-basket filled with roses and lots of other flowers."

At the carnival held at Jacksonville a few days ago, I noticed an M. G. R. badge on a fine looking woman; she seemed to notice mine, also, but the crowd was so great that we failed to get within speaking distance of each other. Will she please write to Miss Prudence if she remembers the incident.

As I have laid my life work aside I hope to have more time at my disposal for enjoying the company of my friends, and shall write oftener to the M. G. R's. —"Florida Old Man."

From Missouri we are promised some more good things:

I want to come to the Thanksgiving party, and you will please ask "Zack Stubbs" not to fail to call at my house and get a lot of canned peaches, and I will put in some persimmons for the benefit of those who do not live where they grow. I have been here in Missouri all summer and expect to be here this winter, but hope to go back to sunny Kansas in the spring. I have worn my M. G. R. badge from St. Louis to Denver without seeing another like it, but am hoping to see one on some member of the order some time.—"Topsy."

Would you have thought "Addie" would have "told on me" as she did? I never suspected she would tell you how I longed for the melons of Ohio when I was on my way to the land of big red apples, fine melons and tall sweet peas. You who were not in our company missed a rare treat. I could not bring any melons or apples home, for they would not keep, but I did get a picture of sweet peas that grew taller than the young lady who was standing by them.

"Maud," I am heartily in favor of simplifying the spelling of some words; I feel the need especially just now, when I have been grading papers for the last week and the need of simpler spelling was made very apparent. One boy spelled "knee" nea; another had "cofa" for coffee. My own name appeared in many styles upon the different papers. But I fear these children would not receive much benefit from the new method, as their spelling is governed by no set standard as "breag" for "bridge," will show.

For what are you thankful? I have so many reasons for thankfulness that I cannot enumerate them, nor can I confine my thanksgiving to one day in the year.

"The Mother of Three" is my married sister, and I wish you all could have a personal acquaintance with her three boys. They are all the nice lads you would expect my nephews to be.

Have you made your will for this year? I am sending you several wills to sign:

I will stand for right each day.
I will "hurt words" never say.
I will ask my Lord to guide.
I will walk close by His side.
I will daily duties do.
To myself I will be true.
I will keep my heart aright.
I will pray at morn and night.
I will act the best I know.
I will kindness ever show.
I will sign these "wills," and who
Will endorse them, too. Will you?

—Buckeye Schoolma'am.

Several applications for membership are present this morning, and we will listen to them:

As I have read many interesting letters in this department, I thought I would just call this morning and ask if I might be admitted to the club. Last evening we had the first snow of the season, and the view from the window today makes one think winter has really come, but until now we have been having fine weather. I am not an Iowa girl, but, having lived here for two years, am getting accustomed to the hills and find the climate very healthful and enjoy life here very much.—"C. L. E."

Cannot "C. L. E." send the pattern she mentions to The Blade and thus benefit all who may like it? Thanks for the recipe sent.

I would like to join the M. G. R.'s, and will promise to keep the rules. I do not remember of seeing any letters from Dakota. Are there no Dakota members in the M. G. R.? North Dakota is a beautiful state, especially in the spring and the month of June. Then one can see acres of wild roses looking like a solid rose-bed. The air is so clear that we can see for great distances and neighbors living miles away seem quite close.

The girls out here spend much in the saddle, and very often "round up" the cattle at night if the men are busy, or they will gallop across the plains after the mail. The Dakota girls are, as a rule, finely educated and accomplished musicians.

Not to take too much time now, I will close this letter, but will tell you the next time I write, of a trip to Alberta—that is, if I may.—"Brownie."

Certainly you may, as soon as you please.

Banner Puzzlers

FOR OCT.

New Work ....Buckeye, Jr.
Solutions.....W. P. E.

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was an American statesman and author, born in 1794. After some years of travel in Germany and England, he returned to America in 1819, to occupy the chair of Greek literature at Harvard. He became editor of the North American Review, and, entering the political world, became successively member of congress, governor of Massachusetts, and in 1840 minister plenipotentiary to England. In 1845 he was appointed president of Harvard college, and in 1852 was made secretary of state. Soon after this he retired to private life, and died in 1866.

HAWKEYE.

2.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

On the edge of a perpendicular rock whose base is 90 ft. on a level from a certain road that is 113 ft wide there is a tower 160 ft. high; the length of a line extending from the top of the tower to a point on the opposite side of the road is 300 ft. What is the elevation of the base of the tower above the road?

T. C. BOWLES.

3.—DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

X O O X
X O O X
X O O X
X O O X
X O O X
X O O X
X O O X

1.—To rush off violently.
2.—Reflected sound.
3.—To twist in ringlets.
4.—To grudge another's good fortune.
5.—Intelligence; understanding.
6.—A Latin word signifying "good."
7.—Not difficult.
8.—Worn-out clothing.

Primals and finals are looked forward to with delight by young and old.

CLEO DAVIS.

4.—ANOTHER HUNT.

I have in mind six well-known authors, whose initials spell one of the four seasons of the year.
No. 1 is the author of "Snow-Bound."
No. 2 wrote the "Songs of Seven."
No. 3 composed "Lead, Kindly Light."
No. 4 was the creator of "Vanity Fair."
No. 5 was responsible for the production of "Adam Bede."
No. 6 published "Sesame and Lilies."

ALICE BANGS.

5.—QUERY.

Who was Collins Graves?

BUCKEYE SCHOOL MA'AM.

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:
"Vigor from toil, from trouble, patience grows;
The weakly blossom, warm in summer bower,
Some tints of transient beauty may disclose;
But soon it withers in the chilling hour.
Mark yonder oaks! Superior to the power
Of all the warring winds of heaven they rise,
And from the stormy promontory tower
And toss their giant arms amid the skies,
While each assailing blast increase of strength supplies."

A. NOLDBOY.

Answers to Puzzles of Nov. 22.

1.—Jean Ingelow.
2.—500 sq. ft.
3.—Words forming square: Heave, Ezdon, admit, voice, enter.
4.—"Nothing succeeds like success."
5.—Grog is the name applied in the navy to the mixture of rum and water served out as a beverage to the men. Forced potations of "six-water" grog, consisting of one part rum to six parts sea-water, are administered occasionally by way of punishment for dirtiness and some other offenses. The quaint name of "grog" is said to be derived from a nickname of Admiral Vernon, who introduced it into the service. In bad weather he was in the habit of walking the deck in a rough grogram cloak; the sailors thence called him "Old Grog," and transferred the name to the drink.
6.—Burns wrote:
"To catch Dame Fortune's golden smile,
assiduous wait upon her,
And gather gear by every wile, that's justified by honor.
Not for to hide it in a hedge, not for a train attendant,
But for the glorious privilege of being independent."

Chat.

W. P. E. takes the banner for October for most solutions sent in, and Buckeye Jr. wins it for most new work used during the month.

The class today consisted of Wm. H. Teeter, Pauline, Hawkeye, W. P. E. and A. F. Fortney.

Wm. H., you are very welcome, and the Mistress hopes you will come often.

Hawkeye, try for the prize offered for the best set of Christmas puzzles.

GRANNY'S COME TO OUR HOUSE

Granny's come to our house!
An' ho! my lawsy-daisy!
All the children 'round the place
Is ist a-runnin' crazy!
Fetched a cake fer little Jake,
An' fetched a pie fer Nanny,
An' fetched a pear fer all the pack
'At runs to kiss their Granny!

Lucy Ellen's in her lap,
An' Wade, an' Silas Walker,
Both's a-ridin' on her foot,
An' 'Pollo's on the rocker;
An' Marthy's twins, from Aunt Marinn's,
An' little Orphant Annie,
All's a-eatin' gingerbread,
An' giggi-un at Granny!

Tells us all the fairy tales
Ever thought er wondered—
An' 'bundance o' other stories—
Bet she knows a hunderd!

Bob's the one fer "Whittington,"
An' "Golden Locks" fer Fanny!
Hear 'em laugh an' clap their hands
Listenin' at Granny!

"Jack the Giant-Killer" 's good—
An' "Bean Stalk" 's another—
So's the one of "Conderell" "
An' her ol' godmother;—
That-un's best of all the rest—
Bestest one of any,—
Where the mices scampers home
Like we runs to Granny!

Granny's come to our house!
Ho! my lawsy-daisy!
All the childern 'round the place
Is ist a-runnin' crazy!
Fetched a cake fer little Jake,
An' fetched a pie fer Nanny,
An' fetched a pear fer all the pack
'At runs to kiss their Granny!

—James Whitcomb Riley.

THE CHEATER GIRL

"Oh, girls! Miss Wallace says we have geography this afternoon and I can never pass it in the world," and Rose flounced down on the ground beside Mary and Ella, the picture of despair.

"That's just as mean as it can be! I don't see why she can't let us know about an examination," pouted Ella.

"Perhaps she wants to find out how well we've done our work every day and didn't mean to give us much time to study up," suggested Mary.

"You always think everything Miss Wallace does is all right. I should, too, if I were her pet," said Ella crossly.

"Of course you know you'll pass anyway," said Rose, "so what do you care?"

Mary said nothing, but the taunts of her playmates hurt her.

"I'll tell you what, girls, I'm going to pass just to spite her," said Ella.

"Yes, let's all try," said Mary. "We shall have all the time after recess to study. She'll be sure to ask about all the rivers that flow into the different oceans. Let's begin with the Atlantic and see how far we can get. Penobscot Kennebec, Androscoggin—"

"Who's going to study? I know a better way," interrupted Ella with a toss of her head.

"What?" exclaimed the other girls in the same breath.

"I'll tell you," said Ella. "My brother's in college and he told me how the boys do there. They just copy the answers to things on their cuffs and on little pieces of paper, and we can copy the hard questions on the back of our white aprons."

"Yes," said Rose, falling in with the scheme at once, "and we could write real fine on thin paper and keep the papers in our belts."

Mary said nothing, but somehow it didn't seem quite right; yet she didn't want to act as though she thought herself better than her schoolmates, so she fell in with the plan.

Such busy bees as they were all the morning, and when Miss Wallace went to the board in the afternoon, everybody watched the writing of the first question with breathless interest.

"Name the rivers of the United States that flow into the Atlantic ocean?"

Mary began to write as fast as her pen could fly, "Penobscot, Kennebec, Androscoggin," and had gotten as far as "Pedee, Santa, Edisto," when Ella, who sat behind her, whispered, "You're not looking at your apron at all."

Mary wanted to do the thing properly, so although "Savannah, Ogeechee, Altomaha," were ringing in her head, she turned her apron and with a furtive glance at Miss Wallace, hunted them out of the confused mass of writing.

The examination seemed very easy to Mary and before the afternoon was half over she discovered that she was wasting a whole lot of time watching Miss Wallace to get the chance to look at her apron.

"Why, Mary! is that all you have done?" said Miss Wallace as she looked at her paper when the examination time was half over. "You'll not get through unless you write faster, and I am sure you know most of this very well."

Mary said nothing, but glanced at the clock and then went rapidly to work. She soon became so interested that she forgot all about her apron and the papers tucked in her belt, and Ella was having trouble enough with her own examination not to watch Mary.

"Did you get through, Mary?" asked Rose, as they went out together.

"Yes, I just finished."

"Well, I didn't," said Rose. "I had such a time hunting out the answers! If I'd worked as hard this morning studying as I did copying stuff, I could have done something with the old examination. How much did you do, Ella?"

"I did seven questions, but I don't care whether I pass or not. Come on, let's play tennis."

But Mary was in no mood for play, and turned down the side street toward her own home. She was glad to find that her mother was away, for she did not want to talk to anybody. She went to her room and sat down by the open window to think.

In the trees outside the birds were hopping from branch to branch chattering to each other. Mary did not notice them at first, then all at once they seemed to be calling to her, and all she could make them say was "Cheater girl! cheater girl!" A stray breeze came in through the window and turned over the corner of her apron. She snatched it off, and finding an eraser on the table began to remove the taunting traces of her dishonesty.

She rubbed and rubbed until her fingers ached and the hot tears rolled down her flushed cheeks, but still the birds kept calling through the window, "Cheater girl! cheater girl!"

"Oh, dear! what shall I do?" she sobbed aloud. Just then she heard a door shut downstairs and she knew her mother had come. How she dreaded meeting her, for mother held honesty to be the one thing to be desired above everything else. What would she think of her little daughter whom even the birds called "cheater girl?"

The supper bell rang and she went slowly downstairs, dreading to meet her mother's discerning eye. Mothers have a dreadful way of finding out that something is wrong, even if you don't say a word. Fortunately for Mary, father had brought an old college friend home with him for supper, and the little girl was able to sink into the background after the first introductions. Father rallied her once or twice on her lack of appetite, but mother covered her embarrassment in a tactful way, and the meal finally came to an end.

After tea Mary slipped out unobserved. As the gate closed behind her a bird on the tree above her called: "Cheater girl! cheater girl!"

"Don't you say that again!" said Mary, stamping her foot. "I know I'm a cheater girl, but I shan't be when I get back," and she ran down the street as fast as her feet could carry her.

Miss Wallace was sitting on the porch as Mary raced up the walk.

"Why, what is the matter, Mary? How warm you are," and she put her two hands on the hot flushed cheeks and lifted the face until she looked into the tear-brimmed eyes.

"Oh! don't be good to me, Miss Wallace! You will just hate me when you know what a dreadful thing I have done," and Mary dropped down on the step at Miss Wallace's feet.

"Yes? I don't believe I agree with you, Mary. But supposing you tell me all about it and then we'll see."

So the whole story was told, with no hint that the suggestion came from anyone else, but Miss Wallace knew her girls pretty well and thought she understood matters all around.

"Did you copy all your examination?"

"No, it was such a bother to look up things that I wrote the last part without looking on my apron, and I forget all about the papers in my belt."

"And that was the best part of your examination. I wondered when I corrected your paper after school, why you had made so many mistakes on the first few questions.

"I must have mixed the names up and copied wrong."

"Well, now the question is what shall we do about it."

"You'll have to mark me zero just as you do everybody else who cheats."

"But you really know the geography, Mary. How would you like to take another examination tomorrow?

"Would you give it to me, Miss Wallace?"

"I shall be glad to."

"And you won't always hate me and think I'm a real cheater girl?"

"You have always been perfectly trustworthy and because you have once been false to what you know is right is no reason why I should think you will be dishonest again. I think you have learned your lesson, and I shall trust you just as I always have, for you have been true and brave in telling me what you did. Good night, and now run home before it gets dark."

Mary flitted down the walk as though her feet had wings. As she went in at her own gate, a saucy bird was hopping from limb to limb near by, and Mary called as she paused at the door, "I'm not a cheater girl now and I'm never going to be any more."—Florence Milner in The Pilgrim.

STOMACH TROUBLES CURED

New Method Is Successful Where Medicines Alone Fail.

A Dollar's Worth Free to Every Sufferer

My Peptopad treatment cures stomach trouble of almost every form and stage. It regulates the bowels, relieves soreness, and strengthens the nerves of the stomach. It conquers Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Distress after eating, Nervousness, Catarrh of the Stomach, Heart Fluttering, Sick Headache, etc., promptly and unfailingly. You can eat what you want and all you want without fear of distress. Peptopads, being an external remedy, produce no reaction or drug effect and are worn without inconvenience. They contain no opiates and will not create a drug habit. This method of treatment cures the most obstinate cases in a common sense way, which is fully explained in a valuable booklet sent with the free treatment. If you suffer from any form of Stomach trouble, and will send 10c to cover mailing expenses, I will forward you absolutely FREE a dollar's worth of my celebrated treatment. Do not suffer another day, for I can cure you. Send NOW.

DR. O. C. YOUNG, 30 People's Bank Bldg., Jackson, Mich.

ARMED FORCE WAS USED

One Man's Coal Claim Boldly Seized by Officers of the Railroad Company.

Salt Lake City, Dec. 1. — Interstate Commerce Commissioner E. E. Clarke, continuing his investigation of the coal trade in the intermountain country and the railroads methods of acquiring coal properties, devoted much time to the Denver & Rio Grande system and its affiliated coal companies.

Charles Livingston, formerly chief clerk at Sunnyside for the Utah Fuel company and the Wasatch store, both Gould companies, testified that before August 1, 1906, both companies enjoyed what amounted to a secret tariff of all material shipped to the mines over the Denver & Rio Grande lines. The companies also received concessions over other railroad lines, he said.

Mr. Livingston said that under these special rates the coal companies shipped fire brick from Pueblo at $55 a car, while under the full rate was $155 a car.

W. O. Williams, auditor of the Utah Fuel company, the Pleasant Valley Coal company and the Wasatch store at Sunnyside, testified that the coal company had never paid any dividends. All the profits of their business, he said, went to pay off interest on outstanding bonds. He also told of the special freight rates enjoyed by the coal companies. The railroad company, he testified, acted as agent for the coal companies at certain points, collecting the bills for coal delivered.

Mr. Williams denied that any books or vouchers of the several companies were sent to headquarters in New York after the beginning of the present inquiry. He also denied that any books or vouchers had been destroyed.

Mr. Williams admitted that his name had been used by the coal company to procure title to 220 acres of land near Clear Creek. He never received any compensation for this.

Byron Groo, former secretary of the state land board of Utah, was uncertain as to how title to the land was passed from the state of Utah to the coal companies. He admitted that large tracts of land were so disposed of by the state land board.

George D. Holliday, of Salt Lake City, told of his efforts to acquire title to a tract of coal land in Sunnyside. He organized the Holliday Coal company in 1897, and undertook to mine coal, Robert Forester, geologist of the Utah Fuel company, with other men, came to him, he said, and told him that unless he got off the land they would jump his claim. Later, during his absence, armed men went in and took possession of the property to which a man named Robert Kirken set up a claim. Holliday testified that he attempted to contest Kirken's claim in Utah courts, but finally tiring of the struggle, he sold out to the coal company for $22,600. From the time Kirken jumped the claim, Holliday testified, until he sold out his rights to the Pleasant Valley Coal company, Holliday was not permitted to go on the land. Livingston and Williams, of the Gould Coal company, denied that the coal company had procured secret freight rates over the Oregon Short line.

LEGISLATORS IN A RIOT

More Violence In the Parliament at Venice.

Vienna, Dec. 1.—A vicious outbreak, such as formerly was of almost daily occurrence, took place in the lower house of parliament during the debate on the electoral reform law yesterday. The Czech Radicals, questioning the fairness of a vote on an amendment upon which they were defeated, stormed the presidential tribune, seized and tore up the papers on the desk and scattered the remnants on the floor. Herr Presl, a Czech, and Herr Albrecht, a German, came to blows, and Albrecht subsequently had a second encounter with Herr Klofac, a Czech. The sitting of the house was suspended during the fights, the struggling deputies were finally dragged apart, the tumult gradually subsided and the debate was resumed.

TARIFF EXPERTS BUSY

Americans Getting On Famously With Germans.

Berlin, Dec. 1.—The American tariff commissioners are getting on well with their inquiry, though they will hardly finish their work before Christmas. Besides listening for four hours daily to the presentation of the German case the Americans have been able to remove some of the misconceptions regarding the American tariff and customs administration. The utmost cordiality prevails between the American and German commissioners and the German government officials are showing the Americans much social attention.

BLAME FOR THE WRECK

Operator Declared to Have Left His Station.

MEN OF PROMINENCE KILLED IN WRECK.

Samuel Spencer, head of the great Southern Railway system, right hand man of J. Pierpont Morgan, financier, leader of the transportation world, promoter of science and art and active member of societies devoted to these causes in New York, Washington and Baltimore.

Philip Schuyler, retired capitalist of New York, descendant of General Schuyler of continental army fame, grand nephew of Alexander Hamilton, veteran of the civil war in which he made a distinguished record and won the brevet rank of brigadier general, member of nearly all the prominent clubs of the eastern metropolis and active supporter of many of its best known institutions.

Charles D. Fisher, one of the most prominent merchants and financiers of Baltimore, member of a distinguished Maryland family, director of railroads and leader in enterprises having for their object the development of the south.

Francis T. Redwood, member of a noted family of Virginia which was prominent during the revolution, social and business leader of Baltimore, governor of the stock exchange of that city and member of its principal clubs.

Lynchburg, Va., Nov. 30.—The frightful accident yesterday morning near Lawyers depot on the Southern railway, in which President Samuel Spencer and his party lost their lives, is declared by a Southern railway official to be due to the block telegraph rules being disregarded by Operator C. Mattoax, who was in charge of the night trick at the block station at Rangoon, four miles north of the scene of the wreck, and the first station north of Lawyers depot.

Assistant General Superintendent E. A. Coapman, of the company, this morning gave out the following statement to the representative of the Associated Press, which explains fully the cause of the trouble:

"Investigation so far made of the accident develops the fact that Operator Mattoax, at Rangoon, let train No. 33 into the block and, disregarding the rules, failed to notify the operator at Lawyers depot of this fact. When the first section of train No. 37, the Washington and Southwestern vestibuled limited approached Rangoon, Operator Mattoax, asked the operator at Lawyers for the block on No. 37. This was given by the operator at Lawyers, who did not know that No. 33 had gone in upon the block.

"No. 33 broke down at the south end of a curve and as soon as the train stopped the flagman ran back to protect his train. As far as we can learn the flagman had proceeded about 300 yards when No. 37 was in view on the curve. Engineer McKinney saw the signal and applied the emergency brake, but he did not have time to leave his seat before the collision took place.

"An inspection of the telegraph sheets in each of the block stations substantiates this belief. The sheet at Rangoon shows that No. 33 was given the block by Operator Mattoax and the sheet at Lawyers shows that Mattoax had not notified the operator there that No. 33 was on the block and entitled to it.

"A fuller investigation will be made as speedily as possible, but we do not expect to develop additional facts. The company has a number of men scouring the country in the hope of locating Operator Mattoax, but up to a late hour this forenoon we have been able to ascertain aboslutely nothing as to his whereabouts."

An investigation is being made today into the circumstances which led to the wreck. The death of Wm. Pollard, the negro porter in President Spencer's private car, and J. W. Shaw, the negro fireman, both of whom died in the city hospital here last night, swelled the death list to seven in all. The latest word from the hospital regarding the injured indicated that all of them are doing well and probably will recover. The scene of the wreck is ten miles south of Lynchburg, and to it many persons have wended their way out of curiosity to see the effects of the disaster. The work of clearing the debris is being carried on, and some of the wreckage already has been removed. County Coroner J. W. Davis is expected to take some action on the accident today. He arrived at the scene of the wreck yesterday, but finding that the bodies already had been removed, he deferred until today as to deciding what steps he should take in the matter. The escape of E. E. Merrill, of New York, private secretary to Mr. Spencer, the only survivor in the party on the private car, save for a porter, was miraculous. The injuries he sustained are not serious, and he will be able to leave the city hospital here probably by the first of the week.

PROSPERITY IS AMAZING

So Says Lipton, Speaking of America.

London, Dec. 1.—Sir Thomas Lipton has contributed to the Weekly Dispatch an article describing the amazing prosperity in America in every department of trade and commerce. He says it is no exaggeration to declare that at no previous period of human industry has such prosperity been known in any country. Everybody in America is making money and in such piles that the ordinary standards of comfort and luxury are being replaced by new ideals.

"Even responsible and well informed writers in England," Sir Thomas continues, "appear to have little idea of what is happening across the Atlantic. The view appears to be that this prosperity is merely due to financial manipulation. Never was there a more ridiculous theory. American prosperity is based upon the immense expansion of solid industries, the increased purchasing power of the people and the legitimate development of agriculture and mining industries, while the general confidence is such that nobody is afraid to spend lavishly."

DEATH LIST IS REVISED

German Explosion Resulted in Loss of Thirty Lives.

Dortmund, Germany, Nov. 30.—A revised list of the casualties resulting from the explosion, the night of Nov. 28, of the Witten Roburite factory, shows that 30 persons were killed, 62 severely injured and 180 were less seriously hurt. The town town of Witten, near the factory, presents a sad scene of mourning and destruction.

CASES MUST BE STAMPED

Amount of Gold in Watches in England to Be Indicated.

London, Dec. 1.—On the appeal of the Goldsmith's company, the appeal court has decided that gold or silver cases of all foreign made watches, whether with or without works, must be assayed and hall-marked before they can be sold in Great Britain. Though hitherto only foreign cases without works were liable to be stamped, an enormous industry in completed foreign watches was built. The jewelers intend to appeal to the house of lords.

AWFUL PSORIASIS 35 YEARS.

Terrible Scaly Humor in Patches All Over the Body—Skin Cracked and Bleeding—Cured by Cuticura.

"I was afflicted with psoriasis for thirty-five years. It was in patches all over my body. I used three cakes of Cuticura Soap, six boxes of Ointment, and two bottles of Resolvent. In thirty days I was completely cured, and I think permanently, as it was about five years ago. The psoriasis first made its appearance in red spots, generally forming a circle, leaving in the center a spot about the size of a silver dollar of sound flesh. In a short time the affected circle would form a heavy dry scale of a white silvery appearance and would gradually drop off. To remove the entire scales by bathing or using oil to soften them the flesh would be perfectly raw, and a light discharge of bloody substance would ooze out. That scaly crust would form again in twenty-four hours. It was worse on my arms and limbs, although it was in spots all over my body, also on my scalp. If I let the scales remain too long without removing by bath or otherwise, the skin would crack and bleed. I suffered intense itching, worse at nights after getting warm in bed, or blood warm by exercise, when it would be almost unbearable. W. M. Chidester, Hutchinson, Kan., April 20, 1905."

CUBAN SOLONS OUSTED

Those Elected In 1905 Must Give Up Seats.

Havana, Dec. 3.—"By a decree to be issued soon under specific authority of the President of the United States, the seats of all members of the second series of the Cuban congress elected in 1905 will be declared vacant."

This was the announcement made by Governor Magoon to 25 senators and members of the house of representatives whom he had invited to attend a conference in the palace yesterday. After reviewing all the facts developed by the peace commission sent to Cuba by President Roosevelt in response to President Palma's appeal for intervention, and with special reference to the negotiations relating to the status and final disposition of the Cuban congress, Governor Magoon called the attention of the members to the fact that the determination as to the status of the congress had been reserved by the peace commission for consideration at Washington. He then communicated to them the final determination of President Roosevelt that the seats of all senators and representatives eleceed in 1905 shall be considered vacant from October 12, 1904, the vacancies thereby created being filled by an election under the provisional government in accordance with the proclamation of Gov. Taft September 29.

The first series of senators and representatives elected in 1904 will be continued in office if moral peace, tranquility and public confidence be restored to such an extent that an election for the vacated seats may be held during 1907, and that there may be at the same time an election of the successors of the representatives whose terms expire December 31, 1907, without shortening these terms, thus avoiding the necessity for two elections.

The salaries of the ousted members will be paid to October 12, the date fixed by the peace commission.

FRENCH WARSHIPS OFF

Squadron Sails for Tangier to Protect Europeans.

Paris, Nov. 30.—Admiral Touchard's squardon sailed from Toulon for Tangier this morning.

In the chamber of deputies yesterday Foreign Minister Pichon announced that French warships had been ordered to Tangier in accordance with the agreement arrived at with Spain and known to and approved by all the powers. The government's action, the minister added, did not imply any idea of intervention, but was purely a preventive step. Continuing M. Pichon said:

"It is impossible for us to leave our countrymen at the mercy of the bandits infesting Tangier or abandon to others the task of protecting Europeans."

The discussion of the interpellation of M. Jaures, Socialist, on the government's Moroccan policy, and the debate on the ratification of the Algeciras convention have been fixed for December 6.

RUNAWAY ENGINE'S HAVOC

It Caused Two Wrecks and Killed Two Men.

Winnipeg, Man., Nov. 30.—A runaway switch engine in the Canadian Northern yards yesterday caused two wrecks, killed two men, seriously injured six persons and destroyed $50,000 worth of property.

As a Northern Pacific train from St. Paul was steaming into the yards it met with a switch engine coming backwards around a curve. Both engineers jumped after reversing their locomotives. The passenger engine was wrecked and the train derailed. A woman passenger sustained a sprained back and the fireman suffered a cut head.

The switch engine was not much damaged, and, being left with the throttle open, it tore back towards the station, leaving the engineer and the fireman where they had jumped to the ground. The locomotive ran across the river, straight down the main track on which stood a passenger train ready for its trip south. A switchman, seeing that the runaway locomotive would crash into the passenger train, threw a switch, sending the wild locomotive on to a side track full of freight cars.

The uncontrolled locomotive rushed full speed against the box cars. Seven men were engaged loading a car in this string, and two who were inside the car were killed, being crushed between some heavy machinery and the end of the car. Four others were so severely hurt that their recovery is doubtful. The other man escaped.

The switch engine was demolished, as were several freight cars.

NEW SPANISH CABINET

Policy of Government to Be Slightly Changed.

Madrid, Nov. 30.—Senor Moret y Prendergast has formed a new cabinet and his appointments have been accepted by King Alfonso. It is as follows:

Premier, Senor Moret y Prendergast.
Minister of foreign affairs, Perez Caballero.
Minister of the interior, Senor Barroso.
Minister of finance, Eluterio Delgado.
Minister of public works, Senor Gaset.
Minister of war, Lieut.-General De Luque.
Minister of marine, the Duke of Alba.
Minister of Justice, Count Romanones.

There is no minister of worship and education.

There is general regret regarding the inopportuneness of ministerial changes during the present unsettled condition of Spain's commercial relations with foreign powers, and the Moroccan situation. It is considered, however, that the present commercial negotiations are sufficiently advanced to bind the new cabinet to the policy of its predecessor, while the taking over of the foreign office by Perez Caballero, who was one of Spain's delegates to the international Moroccan conference at Algeciras, assures a continuance of the present understanding with France.

The resignation of the Dominguez cabinet really resulted from divergencies of opinion on the religious question, which the Moderate Liberals considered had been pushed too rapidly to the front thus delaying the progress of arrangements for the financial problem.

LAND OFFICE SMIRCHED

Trial of Coal Land Thieves Leads to High Places.

Salt Lake City, Nov. 29.—In the examination into Utah and Wyoming coal land frauds before Edward E. Clark, of the Interstate commerce commission, yesterday afternoon, a trail was struck which leads directly to the United States senate and the interior department and general land office in Washington. Direct charges of complicity in land frauds were made against United States Senators Warren and Clark, of Wyoming, Commissioner Richards, of the general land office, and George F. Pollock, chief of a bureau in the interior department.

These charges were made in testimony given by Michael A. Myendorff, a special agent of the government, who began an investigation of the coal lands frauds in Utah, and who, before he had completed his investigation, was transferred to Los Angeles and then to Portland.

Myendorff presented affidavits in which he told of efforts made by the persons before mentioned and other influential men to induce him to cease his investigation of coal land frauds. He alleged that in Denver Senator Warren told him he ought not to go after the Union Pacific and incur the enmity of that company. He charged that the land department at Washington had suppressed evidence procured by him, and that in two charges which he filed against Robert Forrester, geologist of the Utah Fuel company, a Gould corporation, no action was taken.

The witness further alleged that George F. Pollock, chief of department B, interior department, instructed him to destroy four affidavits he had procured against the Union Pacific Coal company. Mr. Myendorff's affidavit goes at length into the methods of the coal companies in procuring coal lands by entries through dummies, who transferred their rights to the corporations. He alleges that on one occasion seventy-seven men were taken before W. I. Gifford, agent of the Union Pacific, in his office in the Denver union station, and signed their names to powers of attorney, relinquishments and affidavits, which were used to acquire title to coal lands in Wyoming. Some of these men, it is asserted, signed fictitious names. The men who signed received $4 each for their trouble.

In his references to Senators Warren and Clark, the affiant declared that on one ocacsion, when he met Senator Warren in Denver, the senator produced confidential letters which Myendorff had written to the land commissioner in Washington, and read extracts from them. Myendorff alleged that it was represented to him that to stir up the Wyoming coal lands case at that time would incur the enmity of the Union Pacific interests and prevent the re-election of Senator Clark. Myendorff alleged that he was removed from Denver in 1905 as a result of his activities.

Col. P. S. Sowers, a special agent of the land department, told of his inability to induce the land department to act in affairs relating to coal lands. As a result of charges he made against Robert Forrester, geologist of the Pleasant Valley Coal company, he said, he was compelled to resign, in 1905, but later was reinstated at the request of George A. Sutherland, then attorney for the Pleasant Valley Coal company, now United States senator from Utah.

When the examination was resumed yesterday, E. M. Allison, attorney for the Rio Grande system, asked that H. G. Williams, general manager of the Utah Fuel company, a Gould corporation, be summoned as a witness. J. T. Marchand, who is conducting the government's case before Mr. Clark, flatly refused to examine Mr. Williams, declaring that he did not purpose to render Mr. Williams immune to future action.

The report that a federal grand jury which has been investiagitng coal land frauds has voted several indictments cannot be confirmed. The indictments probably will not be returned until after the close of Commissioner Clark's investigation.

E. M. Allison, attorney for the Rio Grande system, in arguments before Commissioner Clark, has charged that most of the testimony brought out is for the purpose of influencing public opinion against persons who might be indicted by the grand jury.

GRAFT IN THE FAMINE

Russia Investigating a Suspicious Grain Contract.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 1.—As a result of the investigation which the press campaign and public indignation have compelled the ministry to make into the Lidval contract for the purchase of grain intended for famine relief, in which Assistant Minister of the Interior Gurko is alleged to be involved, the sufferings of the stricken population of the Volga provinces have been greatly augmented. On account of the disappearance of Lidval, the chief grain buyer, in the face of threatened proceedings, the purchase and shipment of the sorely needed grain have been suspended and considerable time must elapse before new contracts can be drawn up.

Further disclosures increase the gravity of M. Gurko's action in awarding the contract to Lidval. Governor Alexandrovski, of Penza province, who has been mentioned as one of Lidval's sponsors, says he never heard of the man until he received orders through M. Gurko's department to purchase grain only through Lidval. It also develops that the profits of the deal were even greater than first supposed. The zemstvo committee of the neighboring province of Tula was able to purchase grain for 61-3c per bushel below Lidval's contract price, equivalent to over $400,000 on the whole contract.

Princes G. E. Lvoff and Orbeliani, representing the zemstvo bureau for famine relief, who have just returned to Moscow from a trip through the stricken provinces, report that the situation is even worse than described in the earlier accounts.

TO DOUBLE LIQUOR TAX

Atwell Has Plan to Increase Aikin Law Revenue.

Columbus, O., Nov. 29.—Senator W. L. Atwell, of Licking county, will introduce at the next session of the state senate a bill increasing the Aikin law tax on saloons from $1,000 to $2,000. He is said to have secured promises of support for the bill from several of his colleagues.

Though over a year will elapse before any amendment can be offered to the Aikin law, it is already evident that the announced intention of the brewers to try to cut the tax in two will be met by a counter attempt to double it.

MAY BE A COUNTERFEITER

Rumsey, the Train Robber, Is Accused of Other Crimes.

Marshall, Mo., Nov. 28.—The preliminary hearing of Jesse Clyde Rumsey of Chicago, the confessed train robber, set for this morning, was postponed until tomorrow morning. The Chicago & Alton detectives who secured Rumsey's confession yesterday continued today to question the prisoner regarding other crimes which they profess to believe he has committed. The detectives believe Rumsey is also guilty with others of counterfeiting and that they expect to involve several men in the latter crime before he is placed on trial.

BIRTHDAY OF THE QUEEN

Alexandra Receives Felicitations on Natal Anniversary.

London, Dec. 1.—The birthday of Queen Alexandra, who was born in 1844, was celebrated at Sandringham today by an unusually large gathering of the royal family. Greetings from all parts of the world arrived all day long, the usual salutes were fired and there were brilliant

QUEEN ALEXANDRA.

displays of bunting at the naval and military centers. King Edward's gift to her majesty was a costly white motor car, which was awarded honors at the recent exhibition at the Olympia, this city.

ROYAL MARRIAGE DENIED

Duchess Not Wedded to the Russian Grand Duke.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 29.—The Associated Press is authorized by the ministry of the court to deny the current report

that the marriage of Grand Duke Nicholas Nicholaievitch and Anastia, duchess of Leuchtenberg, occurred November 25 or is about to be celebrated.

BAILEY CRIES POLITICS

Sees Conspiracy in Moves In Texas Oil Ouster.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 30.—Senator Bailey made the subjoined statement yesterday relative to allegations which affect him in connection with the suit against the Waters-Pierce Oil company. In giving out the statement Senator Bailey said that inasmuch as the attorney general of Texas had connected his name so prominently with the case, he would leave at once for Austin to attend the proceedings.

The statement follows:

"I have believed for more than two months that the attorney general's office is actively aiding the political conspiracy against me in Texas. For some time reports have been coming to me of statements made by men connected with that office which are absolutely false, and which could have been made only for the purpose of creating prejudice in the minds of those who do not know the facts.

"Inasmuch as I have publicly and repeatedly declared that I did not act as an attorney for the Waters-Pierce Oil company in the matter of its readmission to the state, it would be important for the people to know whether or not it is true, but its importance would be wholly political and has no relation whatever to a legal proceeding to revoke the permit of that company and to punish it by fines and penalties. If the state could show that the Waters-Pierce Oil company paid me even a fabulous sum for helping it to secure its permit to transact business in Texas, it could have no more legal effect upon the decision of that case than if the attorneys for the defense could prove that the railroads and breweries assisted Attorney General Davidson to secure his nomination as attorney general."

200-YEARS WAR NOW OVER

Holland Finally Suppresses War in South Celebes.

Victoria, B. C., Nov. 30.—The steamer Antilochus brings news from Sinapore of the dramatic ending of Holland's 200-year-old war in South Celebes. After a siege of many months, the Hollanders captured the mountain fortress of Barupu, where the rebels made their last stand. This was almost like an eagle's nest, almost inaccessible. The Hollanders made a cordon, seeking to prevent supplies reaching the rebels, and finally the rebel leaders, seeing that further resistance meant annihilation, surrendered with 900 men. The insurrection in South Celebes will end with this surrender.

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIND

Rare Manuscripts and Paintings Discovered in Asia.

Bombay, Nov. 30.—Doctor von Lecoq, who has been traveling in the most remote parts of Central Asia on a scientific mission with which he was charged by the Prussian government, has arrived at Srinagar, capital of Kashmir, with an important collection of archaeological discoveries. These include several highly interesting paintings upon stucco with gold leaf backgrounds, like Italian work, and a number of manuscripts in ten different languages, one in a wholly unknown tongue. This is probably the greatest archaeological find since the days of Sir Henry Rawlinson and Sir Austen Layard.

WANT MORE PAY.

Honolulu, Nov. 30.—The members-elect of the Hawaiian legislature will ask the United States to raise their pay to $1,000 a session.

TEN HOUR DAY FOR SOME

Czar Signs Important Decree Regulating Employment.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 1.—An important part of the administration's program for industrial reform, designed to appeal for the votes of the great mass of clerks and commercial employes at the coming elections, was promulgated yesterday in a law providing for the normal repose of commercial establishments, which was signed by the emperor Thursday night. In addition to a ten-hour day for employes in stores, offices, and so on, and a fifteen-hour day for those who work in restaurants, saloons and similar establishments which are allowed to be open, the law embodies the statute regarding Sunday closing, providing for closing stores and the cessation of work in factories, except in the case of industries in which continuous activity is necessary. Groceries and meat markets will be permitted to open for a few hours on Sunday. In addition to two hours at noon employes under 17 years of age are entitled to three hours daily for school time.

The provision for Sunday closing extends also to the twelve great holidays of the Russian church, but in the districts chiefly inhabited by the nonorthodox population other days of corresponding importance may be substituted. The law does not extend to the factory and industrial establishments which will be covered by a law to be issued later. At the outset the industrial and commercial interests offered considerable opposition to the enactment of this legislation, but shifted their ground owing to fear that the labor movement would again enter a revolutionary phase if the concessions were not granted.

PEASANTS ARE STARVING

Famine Acute in the Volga Districts.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 29.—The famine conditions in the provinces of Kazan, Simbirsk, Samara, Saratov and other Volga districts have now reached a most desperate stage. Though on account of the chronic state of destitution of the poorer class of peasants the Russian press gives no special prominence to the matter, it is learned that the situation this year is worse than for ten years past. According to experts the famine is only slightly, if at all, less severe than the great famine of 1891, which enlisted the sympathy of the civilized world and caused the United States to send a shipload of grain, clothing, etc., to Russia. Thousands of peasants in the stricken districts are now in the grasp of actual starvation, the cold winter has already begun and letters and dispatches describe the piteous condition of the peasants, who are eating pigweed and hay in order to lessen the pangs of hunger, and are generally resigning themselves apathetically and hopelessly to their fate, only in rare instances resorting to violence. The ministry of the interior has received a dispatch from the Tzivilsk district, where four peasants were killed and a number wounded by rural guards while the former were attempting to carry off the store of grain accumulated in the village of Tchonova, the peasants preferring to die rather than abandon the grain they had stolen. A pathetic feature of the situation is that there is an abundant supply of grain in several of the nearby districts of South Russia and sometimes even in the famine stricken districts, but the supplies are not available on account of inadequate transportation. An American traveler who has just returned here from the south reports seeing sacks of grain stacked high at every railroad station, where the supplies have been waiting weeks for cars and engines.

GASOLINE VAPOR KILLS

Man Is Asphyxiated While Repairing His Auto.

Philadelphia, Dec. 1.—Gustav Soeding, aged 58 years, well known as a promoter of amusement enterprises, was found dead in his automobile in a garage in the northern section of the city late last night. He had been asphyxiated by gasoline fumes while leaning over the tank of the machine making repairs. Soeding had been dead for several hours when his body was found. The unfortunate man's head was lying across the opening from which the deadly fumes were issuing, and the physicians say there is no doubt as to the cause of death.

EULOGY OF ROOSEVELT

European Disarmament Is Discussed by Baron Constant.

Paris, Nov. 29.—The Thanksgiving eve dinner of the American colony took place last evening, Ambassador McCormick presiding. A speech was made by Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, who made reference to the growing demand for limitation of the enormous armaments now weighing down the countries of Europe, and the timidity of the powers to take the initiative in this direction, the speaker declared that this initiative naturally fell to America. After a warm eulogy of President Roosevelt, which brought his hearers to their feet, the baron declared that if President Roosevelt had the courage to submit a clear proposition along those lines to The Hague tribunal, France, Great Britain and Italy would support him, and that even Germany, contrary to the popular belief, would welcome the proposal. While the next meeting at The Hague might not bear this fruit, the speaker predicted that five years would see a limitation of armaments and the world on the high road to a realization of the dream of arbitration as a substitute for the horrors of war.

Baron d'Estournelles de Constant is president of the group in the French parliament which favors international arbitration.

Professor Archibald Cary Collidge, of Harvard university, who begins his lectures at the Sorbonne next week, was among the other speakers.

The health of the presidents of the two republics was proposed by Ambassador McCormick and drunk standing.

TOOK PANAMA BY STORM

Says Shonts, Speaking of the President's Visit.

New York, Dec. 3.—"President Roosevelt took the Panamans by storm," said Theodore P. Shonts, chairman of the Panama canal commission, who arrived on the Panama line steamer Colon, in from Colon, yesterday. Mr. Shonts spoke enthusiastically of the recent visit of the chief executive and declared that work on the canal was progressing under satisfactory conditions. During his talk with the newspaper men, Mr. Shonts took occasion to deny that his daughter, Theodora, had become engaged to the Duc de Chaulnes et de Ploquigry.

GARBER KNOCKING BRYAN

Ohio Leader Says Nebraskan Won't Run Again.

Columbus, O., Dec. 1.—"Bryan is making more than the salary of the President and I do not think he cares to have another presidential nomination," said Harvery C. Garber, chairman of the Democratic state committee. "I cannot speak for Mr. Bryan, but in his recent trip over the state in the campaign I received the impression that he was not seeking a third nomination."

COME EAT with me at my expense

Have a meal on me, 'Twill make you feel as sharp as steel right off the reel. Physicians, bankers and business men sit at my table-board—all to be cured of their stomach troubles. Doctors prescribe my Dyspepsia Biscuit for their patients and use it in their own families. What's good for them ought to be good for you. My Biscuit

STOPS DYSPEPTIC PAINS IN TWO MINUTES

by the watch, in many instances as actually sworn to by patients, yet I positively guarantee it contains no morphine, opium, cocaine or other narcotics. It's made from pineapples, paw-paw melon, wheat, oranges, celery and a few other good things for the nerves, stomach and bowels. You eat it right along with your other food, or before or after meals. It drives dull carking "blues" away and brings the dyspeptic a bright sunny day.

If you have never used my Biscuit, cut out this "ad." and send it to me with your name and address and I'll send you a regular twenty-five cent package of my Dyspepsia Biscuit and Fig Chocolates absolutely free, if you will enclose four cents to pay actual cost of postage at merchandise rates. I give you the goods, remember, and pay cost of packing, etc., myself—you pay postage only. Write to me to-day and have one more good dinner to-morrow. Address: Neal, The Man That Made The Biscuit. Dept. 408, Syracuse, N. Y.

MOB USES THE TORCH

Burns Tobacco Stemmeries at Princeton, Ky.

Princeton, Ky., Dec. 1.—The tobacco stemmeries of John Steger and John G. Orr, the latter controlled by the Imperial Tobacco Co., of New York, were destroyed early today by a fire which was kindled against them by a mob of masked men. Several cottages in the vicinity were badly damaged, but nobody was hurt. The loss is estimated at about $170,000.

The mob, which numbered about 300 men, entered Princeton between 1 and 2 o'clock a. m., seized the night town marshal and disarmed him. They then went to the factories and quickly applied the torch. The masked men stood on guard, permitting nobody to come near until the buildings were completely enveloped in flames, and help was useless. A squad of the mob took charge of the telephone office, and no word of the affair was permitted to go out. When the mob saw that the fire was beyond control they left the town, going in the direction of Hopkinsville, discharging revolvers and rifles as they departed. The fire department then came out, but could do nothing more than prevent the fire from destroying buildings in the vicinity. The Steger stemmery was located on the south side of town, on the Illinois Central railroad, and the Orr building in the northern part of the town.

The Steger factory is controlled by the American Snuff company, and Mr. Steger is the Princeton agent for that concern. Mr. Orr is the representative of the Imperial company. There was about 150,000 pounds of tobacco in each warehouse, and all of it was burned. The mob, in addition to disarming the night policeman, took charge of the police station and the water works. Even had the fire company responded, they would have been unable to obtain a supply of water. The work of the mob is believed to be only a furtherance of the agitation by the tobacco raisers against the so-called tobacco trust. The organization of farmers is known as the Dark Tobacco Growers' Protective association, but it is not known that any member of that organization was in last night's mob.

MONUMENT TO SEWARD

Seattle to Honor Statesman Who Pushed Purchase of Alaska.

Seattle, Nov. 29.—In commemoration of the rare foresight and wisdom and the indomitable courage which led William H. Seward, then secretary of state of the United States, to induce an unwilling congress to purchase Alaska for his country, the citizens of Seattle will erect a monument to commemorate the act which has endeared the grand old statesman to the people of the northwest.

It is planned that the monument shall be completed in time for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition, which is to be held in this city in the summer of 1909 to exploit the resources of the northland. The movement is considered especially timely on this account. The exposition will be an international fair, with exhibits from countries bordering on the Pacific ocean, and from the states of the union and the national government, but primarily it will tell the world of the wonders of the little-known northland, a country marvelously rich in minerals of almost every sort, rich beyond conception in fisheries and possessed of agricultural resources of considerable importance. The monument will occupy a prominent position on the exposition grounds during the period of the fair, and then will be removed to a site in one of the city's beautiful parks.

Alaska was bought by the United States in 1867 from Russia, the consideration being $7,200,000. The purchase was bitterly opposed by men prominent in both houses of congress and the press of the country wailed loudly and long, asserting that the territory would never produce anything more valuable than icebergs, and that, instead of being a source of revenue it would be a constant expense.

Seward, however, was determined that the United States should secure the territory. The time was most auspicious, Russia wanted to sell, and Russia had been friendly to the union in the civil war just closed. The purchase was therefore pushed through.

DEATH OF ELISHA DYER

Former Governor of Rhode Island Passes Away.

Providence, R. I., Nov. 30.—Mayor Elisha Dyer, of this city, former governor of Rhode Island, died suddenly last night of heart disease. Mayor Dyer had been in his usual health and was quite active during the day.

Mayor Dyer is the second chief executive of the city to die suddenly within two years. His predecessor, Mayor Miller, dropped dead at a leading club house.

Elisha Dyer was the son of Rev. Elisha Dyer. He was born in Providence, November 28, 1839. He was a graduate of Brown university and of the University of Giessen, Germany. He was governor of the state from 1897 to 1900, and was elected mayor in 1905.

SEES PAPAL DELEGATES

President Receives Mgrs. Falconio and Aversa in Audience.

Washington, Nov. 29.—Secretary Taft yesterday introduced to the president and later to Secretary Root, Monsignor Falconio, the apostolic delegate to the United States, and Mgr. Jose Aversa, who has been appointed by the vatican in a similar capacity to Cuba. Monsignor Aversa is especially interested in contracts which General Wood entered into with the Catholic church for the rental of church properties in Cuba. These contracts relate to a number of buildings and will expire in 1907. Monsignor Aversa now desires to arrange for the sale or lease of this property to the government at the expiration of the present contract.

RAILROAD RATES JUGGLED

How One of the Standard Concerns Beat Rivals.

St. Louis, Nov. 29.—One of the indictments found against the Waters-Pierce Oil company yesterday contains 21 separate counts, each of which alleges a separate and distinct violation of the law, and charges that the Waters-Pierce company, at stated times, shipped carloads of oil from St. Louis to Alexandria, La., at less than the lawful rates, using the lines of the Missouri Pacific railroad.

It is charged in the indictment that the Missouri Pacific formerly had in effect a rate of 25 cents a hundred pounds on shipments of oil from St. Louis to Alexandria, and afterwards put in effect a 30 cent rate, which should have canceled the old rate.

It is charged that up to July 1, 1906, the Missouri Pacific continued to carry the shipments of the Waters-Pierce company at the rate of 25 cents a hundred pounds, while its competitors were compelled to pay the 30-cent rate. Some of the shipments of the Waters-Pierce company were carried, it is alleged, at 23½ cents, as against the 30-cent rate charged competitors.

The second indictment contains 51 counts. Each count alleges that a carload of oil was shipped by the Waters-Pierce company over the Missouri Pacific lines to Alexandria, La., thence over the Southern Pacific to eleven different towns in Louisiana at less than the rates filed by the roads with the interstate commerce commission. These shipments, it is alleged, covered a period of three years, during which time the Missouri Pacific and the Southern Pacific had in effect a joint rate to the points specified, which had been duly filed with the interstate commerce commission. These rates, it is charged, were conspicuous and well known, and no shipper competing with the Waters-Pierce company had any reason to expect that there was a lower rate than the joint tariff that had been filed with the commission.

During this time the Missouri Pacific road had in effect a 15-cent rate to Alexandria, La., for "beyond shipments," which was applicable only for shipments beyond that point. The Southern Pacific rates from Alexandria to the "beyond" points were not filed with the interstate commerce commission, it is alleged, and not made public under the federal law, but by means of this 15-cent rate to Alexandria, plus the local rates of the Southern Pacific, it was possible for the Waters-Pierce company in using the combined rates to ship oil from St. Louis to the Louisiana towns lower than the first mentioned through rates. These rates were made, it is alleged, prior to and continued up to July 1, 1906.

Under the provisions of the federal laws each shipment of a carload of oil at less than the legal rates is a separate offense and punishable under the Elkins act by a fine of not less than $1,000, nor more than $20,000. This might bring fines to a total of over $1,000,000.

STROBEL GOING TO SIAM

Resigns Harvard Post for That of Adviser There.

Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 1.—Henry W. Strobel, B

JAPS DEFENDED BY ROOSEVELT IN HIS MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

Will Use All Means In His Power In 'Frisco Case.

Special Telegram to The Blade.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 4.—President Roosevelt's message was read before congress today. In it the President said:

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

As a nation we still continue to enjoy a literally unprecedented prosperity; and it is probable that only reckless speculation and disregard of legitimate business methods on the part of the business world can materially mar this prosperity.

No congress in our time has done more good work of importance than the present congress. There were several matters left unfinished at your last session, however, which I most earnestly hope you will complete before your adjournment.

I again recommend a law prohibiting all corporations from contributing to the campaign expenses of any party. Such a bill has already past one house of congress. Let individuals contribute as they desire; but let us prohibit in effective fashion all corporations from making contributions for any political purpose, directly or indirectly.

International Morality.

It is a mistake, and it betrays a spirit of foolish cynicism, to maintain that all international governmental action is, and must ever be, based upon mere selfishness, and that to advance ethical reasons for such action is always a sign of hypocrisy. This is no more necessarily true of the action of governments than of the action of individuals.

I am prompted to say this by the attitude of hostility here and there assumed toward the Japanese in this country. This hostility is sporadic and is limited to a very few places. Nevertheless, it is most discreditable to us as a people, and it may be fraught with the gravest consequences to the nation. The friendship between the United States and Japan has been continuous since the time, over half a century ago, when Commodore Perry, by his expedition to Japan, first opened the islands to western civilization. Since then the growth of Japan has been literally astounding. To no other country has there been such an increasing number of visitors from this land as to Japan. In return, Japanese have come here in great numbers. They are welcome, socially and intellectually, in all our colleges and institutions of higher learning, in all our professional and social bodies. The Japanese have won in a single generation the right to stand abreast of the foremost and most enlightened peoples of Europe and America. But here and there American traditions are dear, who love their country and try to act decently by their neighbors, owe it to themselves to remember that the most damaging blow that can be given popular government is to elect an unworthy and sinister agitator on a platform of violence and hypocrisy. There are at this moment wealthy reactionaries of such obtuse morality that they regard the public servant who prosecutes them when they violate the law, or who seeks to make them bear their proper share of the public burdens, as being even more objectionable than the violent agitator who bounds on the mob to plunder the rich. There is nothing to choose between such a reactionary and such an agitator; fundamentally they are alike in their selfish disregard of the rights of others; and it is natural that they should join in opposition to any movement of which the aim is fearlessly to do exact and even justice to all.

Eight-Hour Law.

I call your attention to the need of passing the bill limiting the number of hours of employment of railroad employes. The measure is a very moderate one and I can conceive of no serious objection to it. Indeed, so far as it is in our power, it should be our aim steadily to reduce the number of hours of labor, with, as a goal, the general introduction of an eight-hour day. There are industries in which it is not possible that the hours of labor should be reduced; just as there are communities not far enough advanced for such a movement to be for their good, or, if in the tropics, so situated that there is no analogy between their needs and ours in this matter. On the Isthmus of Panama, for instance, the conditions are in every way so different from what they are here that an eight-hour day would be absurd; just as it is absurd, so far as the isthmus is concerned, where white labor cannot be employed, to bother as to whether the necessary work is done by alien black men or by alien yellow men. But the wage-workers of the United States are of so high a grade that alike from the merely industrial standpoint and from the civic standpoint it should be our object to do what we can in the direction of securing the general observance of an eight-hour day. Until recently the eight-hour law on our federal statute books has been very scantily observed. Now, however, largely through the instrumentality of the bureau of labor, it is being rigidly enforced.

Disputes Between Capital and Labor.

The commission appointed by the President October 16, 1902, at the request of both the anthracite coal operators and miners, to inquire into, consider and pass upon the questions in controversy in connection with the strike in the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania and the causes out of which the controversy arose, in their report, findings, and award expressed the belief "that the state and federal governments should provide the machinery for what may be called the compulsory investigation of controversies between employers and employes when they arise." This exxpression of belief is deserving of the favorable consideration of the congress and the enactment of its provisions into law. A bill has already been introduced to this end.

Records show that during the twenty years from January 1, 1881, to December 31, 1900, there were strikes affecting 117,569 establishments, and 6,105,694 employes were thrown out of employment. During the same period there were 1,905 lockouts, involving nearly 10,000 establishments, throwing over one million people out of employment. These strikes and lockouts involved an estimated loss to employes of $307,000,000 and to employers of $143,000,000, a total of $450,000,000. The public suffered directly and indirectly probably as great additional loss. But the money loss, great as it was, did not measure the anguish and suffering endured by the wives and children of employes.

Withdrawal of Coal Lands.

It is not wise that the nation should alienate its remaining coal lands. I have temporarily withdrawn from settlement all the lands which the geological survey has indicated as containing, or in all probability containing coal. The question, however, can be properly settled only by legislation, which in my judgment should provide for the withdrawal of these lands from sale or from entry, save in certain especial circumstances. The ownership would then remain in the United States, which should not, however, attempt to work them, but permit them to be worked by private individuals under a royalty system, the government keeping such control as to permit it to see that no excessive price was charged consumers. It would, of course, be as necessary to supervise the rates charged by the common carriers to transport the product as the rates charged by those who mine it; and the supervision must extend to the conduct of the common carriers, so that they shall in no way favor one competitor at the expense of another. The withdrawal of these coal lands would constitute a policy analagous to that which has been followed in withdrawing the forest lands from ordinary settlement. The coal like the forests, should be treated as the property of the public and its disposal should be under conditions which would inure to the benefit of the public as a whole.

Corporations.

The present congress has taken long strides in the direction of securing proper supervision and control by the national government over corporations engaged in interstate business—and the enormous majority of corporations of any size are engaged in interstate business. The passage of the railway rate bill, and only to a less degree the passage of the pure food bill, and the provision for increasing and rendering more effective national control over the beef-packing industry, mark an important advance in the proper direction. In the short session it will perhaps be difficult to go much further along this line; and it may be best to wait until the laws have been in operation for a number of months before endeavoring to increase their scope, because only operation will show with exactness their merits and their shortcomings and thus give opportunity to define what further remedial legislation is needed. Yet in my judgment it will in the end be advisable in connection with the packing house inspection law to provide for putting a date on the label and for charging the cost of inspection to the packers. All these laws have already justified their enactment. The interstate commerce law, for instance, has rather amusingly falsified the predictions, both of those who asserted that it would ruin the railroads and of those who asserted that it did not go far enough and would accomplish nothing. During the last five months the railroads have shown increased earnings and some of them unusual dividends; while during the same period the mere taking effect of the law has produced an unprecedented, a hitherto unheard of, number of voluntary reductions in freights and fares by the railroads. Since the founding of the government there has never been a time of equal length in which anything like so many reduced tariffs have been put into effect. On August 27, for instance, two days before the new law went into effect, the commission received notices of over five thousand separate tariffs which represented reductions from previous rates.

It must not be supposed, however, that with the passage of these laws it will be possible to stop progress along the line of increasing the power of the national government over the use of capital in interstate commerce. For example, there will ultimately be need of enlarging powers of the interstate commerce commission along several different lines, so as to give it a larger and more efficient control over the railroads.

In enacting and enforcing such legislation as this congress already has to its credit, we are working on a coherent plan, with the steady endeavor to secure the needed reform by the joint action of the moderate men, the plain men who do not wish anything hysterical or dangerous, but who do intend to deal in resolute commonsense fashion with the real and great evils of the present system. The reactionaries and the violent extremists show symptoms of joining hands against us. Both assert, for instance, that if logical, we should go to government ownership of railroads and the like; the reactionaries, because on such an issue they think the people would stand with them, while the extremists are rather to preach discontent and agitation than to achieve solid results. As a matter of fact, our position is as remote from that of the Bourbon reactionary as from that of the impracticable, sinister visionary. We hold that the government should not conduct the business of the nation, but that it should exercise such supervision as will insure its being conducted in the interest of the nation. Our aim is, so far as may be, to secure, for all decent, hard working men, equality of opportunity and equality of burden.

Inheritance and Income Tax.

The question of taxation is difficult in any country, but it is especially difficult in ours with its federal system of government. Some taxes should on every ground be levied in a small district for use in that district. Thus the taxation of real estate is peculiarly one for the immediate locality in which the real estate is found. Again, there is no more legitimate tax for any state than a tax on the franchises conferred by that state upon street railroads and similar corporations which operate wholly within the state boundaries, sometimes in one and some times in several municipalities or other minor divisions of the state. But there are many kinds of taxes which can only be levied by the general government, so as to produce the best results, because, among other reasons, the attempt to impose them in one particular state is often results merely in driving the corporation or individual affected to some other locality or other state. The national government has long derived its chief revenue from a tariff on imports and from an internal or excise tax in addition. Where there is every reason why, when next our system of taxation is revised, the national government should impose a graduated inheritance tax, and, if possible, a graduated income tax. The man of great wealth owes a peculiar obligation to the state, because he derives special advantages from the mere existence of government. Not only should he recognize this obligation in the way he leads his daily life and in the way he earns and spends his money, but it should also be recognized by the way in which he pays for the protection the state gives him.

Agriculture.

The only other persons whose welfare is as vital to the welfare of the whole country as is the welfare of the wageworkers are the tillers of the soil, the farmers.

While the farmers must primarily do most for themselves, yet the government can also do much. The department of agriculture has broken new ground in many directions, and year by year it finds how it can improve its methods and develop fresh usefulness. A striking example of how the government and the farmers can co-operate is shown in the work done with the menace offered to the cotton growers of the southern states by the advance of the boll weevil. The department is doing all it can to organize the farmers in the threatened districts, just as it has done all it can to organize them in aid of its work to eradicate the cattle fever tick in the south.

Irrigation and Forest Preservation.

Much is now being done for the states of the Rocky mountains and great plains thru the development of the national policy of irrigation and forest preservation; no government policy for the betterment of our interior conditions has been more fruitful of good than this. The forests of the White mountains and southern Appalachian regions should also be preserved; and they can not be unless the people of the states in which they lie, thru their representatives in congress, secure vigorous action of the national government.

American Shipping.

Let me once again call the attention of the congress to the subjects concerning which I have frequently before communicated with them. One is the question of developing American shipping. I trust that a law embodying in substance the views, or a major part of the views, expressed in the report on this subject laid before the House at its last session will be passed. I am well aware that in former years objectionable measures have been proposed in reference to the encouragement of American shipping; but it seems to me that the proposed measure is as nearly unobjectionable as any can be.

Currency Reform.

I especially call your attention to the second subject, the condition of our currency laws. The national bank act has ably served a great purpose in aiding the enormous business development of the country; and within ten years there has been an increase in circulation per capita from $24.41 to $33.08. For several years evidence has been accumulating that additional legislation is needed. The recurrence of each crop season emphasizes the defects of the present laws. Since your body adjourned there has been a fluctuation in the interest on call money from 2 per cent to 30 per cent; and the fluctuation was even greater during the preceding six months. The secretary of the treasury had to step in and by wise action put a stop to the most violent period of oscillation. Even worse than such fluctuation is the advance in panic conditions and the uncertainty felt in the sufficiency of credit even at high rates. All commercial interests suffer during each crop period. Excessive rates for call money in New York attract money from the interior banks into the speculative field; this depletes the fund that would otherwise be available for commercial uses, and commercial borrowers are forced to pay abnormal rates; so that each fall a tax, in the shape of increased interest charges, is placed on the whole commerce of the country.

The more statement of these facts shows that our present system is seriously defective. There is need of a change. Unfortunately, however, many of the proposed changes must be ruled from consideration because they are complicated, are not easy of comprehension, and tend to disturb existing rights and interests. We must also rule out any plan which would materially impair the value of the United States 2 per cent bonds now pledged to secure circulation, the issue of which was made under conditions peculiarly creditable to the treasury. I do not press any special plan. Various plans have recently been proposed by expert committees of bankers. Among the plans which are possibly feasible and which certainly should receive your consideration is that repeatedly brought to your attention by the present secretary of the treasury, the essential features of which have been approved by many prominent bankers and business men. According to this plan national banks should be permitted to issue a specified proportion of their capital in notes of a given kind, the issue to be taxed at so high a rate as to drive the notes back when not wanted in legitimate trade. This plan would not permit the issue of currency to give banks additional profits, but to meet the emergency presented by times of stringency.

There should be a considerable increase in bills of small denominations. Permission should be given banks, if necessary under settled restrictions, to retire their circulation to a larger amount than three millions a month.

Philippine Tariff.

I most earnestly hope that the bill to provide a lower tariff for or else absolute free trade in Philippine products will become a law. The harm will come to any American industry; and while there will be some small but real material benefit to the Filipinos, the main benefit will come by the showing made as to our purpose to do all in our power for their welfare. So far our action in the Philippines has been abundantly justified, not mainly and indeed not primarily because of the added dignity it has given us as a nation by proving that we are capable honorably and efficiently to bear the international burdens which a mighty people should bear, but even more because of the immense benefit that has come to the people of the Philippine islands. In these islands we are steadily introducing both liberty and order, to a greater degree than their people have ever before known. We have secured justice. We have provided an efficient police force, and have put down ladronism.

Second Hague Conference.

In my last message I advised you that the emperor of Russia had taken the initiative in bringing about a second peace conference at The Hague. Under the guidance of Russia the arrangement of the preliminaries for such a conference has been progressing during the past year. Progress has necessarily been slow, owing to the great number of countries to be consulted upon every question that has arisen. It is a matter of satisfaction that all of the American Republics have now, for the first time, been invited to join in the proposed conference.

Peace and Righteousness.

It must ever be kept in mind that war is not merely justifiable, but imperative, upon honorable men, upon an honorable nation, where peace can only be obtained by the sacrifice of conscientious conviction or of national welfare. Peace is normally a great good, and normally it coincides with righteousness; but it is righteousness and not peace which should bind the conscience of a nation as it should bind the conscience of an individual.

The chance for the settlement of disputes peacefully, by arbitration, now depends mainly upon the possession by the nations that mean to do right of sufficient armed strength to make their purpose effective.

The United States navy is the surest guarantor of peace which this country possesses. It is earnestly to be wished that we would profit by the teachings of history in this matter.

"The navy is the surest guarantor of peace which this country possesses. * * * I do not ask that we continue to increase our navy. I ask merely that it be maintained at its present strength; and this can be done only if we replace obsolete and outworn ships by new and good ones."

"In both the army and navy services there is urgent need for the establishment of a principle of selection which shall eliminate officers after a certain age if they cannot be promoted for merit, and bring into the higher ranks fewer men at an earlier age."

"The only other persons whose welfare is as vital to the whole country as that of the wage workers are the tillers of the soil. The department of agriculture has broken new ground in many directions and is developing fresh usefulness."

"American citizenship should be conferred on the citizens of Porto Rico."

"To shut the Japanese out of the public schools of San Francisco is a wicked absurdity. * * * I recommend that an act be passed specifically providing for the naturalization of Japanese. * * * I recommend that the civil and criminal statutes of the United States be so amended or added to as to enable the President to enforce the provisions of treaties as they relate to aliens. * * * In the matter now before me all the forces, military and civil, of the United States which I may lawfully employ, will be so employed."

"When the election in Cuba has been held and the new government inaugurated in peaceful and orderly fashion, the provisional government will come to an end."

Promise is made of a special message to congress on the Panama canal.

SALIENT POINTS IN PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Recommendation for a law to prohibit all corporations from contributing to campaign expenses.

Demand for a law conferring on the federal government the right of appeal in criminal cases.

"There must be no abuse of the injunction power as is implied in forbidding laboring men to strive for their own betterment in peaceful and lawful ways."

"The greatest existing cause of lynching is that hideous crime that is worse than murder. Swift, relentless and orderly punishment under the law is the only way by which lynching can be suppressed."

"The plain people who think owe it to themselves to remember that the most damaging blow that can be given popular government is to elect an unworthy and sinister agitator on a platform of violence and hypocrisy."

Need of passing a bill limiting the number of hours of employment of railroad employes.

"A drastic child labor law should be enacted for the District of Columbia and the territories."

Employers' liability law should be strengthened.

Law for the compulsory investigation of labor troubles should be passed.

Coal lands should be withdrawn from entry and be worked by private individuals under a royalty system with government supervision extending to railroad rates.

"There will ultimately be need of enlarging the powers of the interstate commerce commission so as to give it larger and more efficient control over the railroads."

"There is no more legitimate tax for any state than a tax on the franchises of street railways and similar corporations."

"There is every reason why, when next our system of taxation is revised the national government should impose a graduated inheritance tax and if possible a graduated income tax."

"The whole question of marriage and divorce should be relegated to the authority of the national congress."

Congress is urged to pass a ship subsidy bill, as per House committee report of last session.

Recommendation for a national bank law to improve the circulation. Shaw's plan for a taxable bank issue suggested.

Passage of law is urged to lower tariff or provide free trade in the Philippines.

"American citizenship should be conferred on the citizens of Porto Rico."

PROUD TO BE A FARMER

Governor Writes Advice to Young Men.

New York, Dec. 3.—Governor Andrew L. Harris, of Ohio, who was the chief speaker at the Ohio society banquet in the Waldorf-Astoria Saturday night, and who is the guest of Walter Harris at his Long Island home, in a specially written story for the Sunday World, extols farm life and tells the young men of Ohio to take up the study of agriculture.

Governor Harris said: "To hold office, if asked to do so by the people, is every man's duty to the state, but to seek and hold office while young is often the gravest mistake of a man's life.

"To the young man called upon to choose between his farm and political office, my advice is always—choose the farm.

"I am a farmer. I was born and raised on a farm, and I have made farming my business. I look upon farming not only as a business, but as an exact science.

"One state after another is doing more and more each year to aid and encourage the young men who are farmers. My own state, through its university; New York, through Cornell—nearly all of the states in the Union—are teaching hundreds of young men the science of farming.

"The course of agriculture in our universities must needs be as broad as the course in arts. It must contain geology, for the farmer should know something of the nature of his farm; it must contain botany, for the farmer should know the science of the growth of his plants; it must contain chemistry for the farmer should know what soil is lacking if the plant is sickly or not green enough.

"In ever increasing numbers are the young men of Ohio taking up the study of agriculture as a science with a view to making farming a business. It is the progress I like to see, and I am lending all the influence of my administration to encourage it. The results have already more than repaid the state for its outlay. Thousands of boys who, under old conditions, would have left their homes on Ohio farms, are settling down in the state, satisfied to make use of the training they have secured and to earn comfortable fortunes for themselves as farmers.

"It was from my farm that the call from the people for my services took me, and it will be to my farm that I shall go when they no longer make claim on me.

"The e l of the farmer is just arriving. The broader and better education of the young farmer, the improvements in the machinery of the farm, better roads and the telephones are all combining to make the men in the country more and more contented.

"The farmer governor, the people of my state have named me, and it is a title of which I am proud."

CROW CARS IN NEW STATE

Resolution for Separate Coaches Is Prepared at Guthrie.

Guthrie, Okla., Dec. 1.—The actual formation of a constitution for Oklahoma was begun yesterday afternoon when proposals were introduced in the constitutional convention for two planks, providing respectively for railway rate regulation and separate coaches for whites and negroes.

The railway regulation bill introduced by Delegate Clint Graham, is summarized as follows:

Railroad express, sleeping ar and oil pipe line companies shall be declared common carriers; to provide for stock inspection; to prevent consolidation and prohibit free passes.

The "Jim Crow" resolution was offered by Judge Ledbetter, of Ardmore, I. T. Both proposals were referred to the committee on railroads.

Rules were adopted yesterday afternoon. Delegate Ledbetter opposed the adoption of a resolution recognizing the federal constitution as paramount to that of the state of Oklahoma. He declared that state sovereignty should be strictly observed.

WILL CONTEST REOPENED

Oelrichs Heirs Apparently Didn't Like the Settlement.

New York, Dec. 4.—The contest over the will of Herman Oelrichs, who died while returning from Europe to the United States last June has not been settled. It was announced a week ago that a settlement had been effected by which Mrs. Oelrichs was to receive 100 Southern Pacific railway bonds, valued at $100,000, and his son the Cygnus estate in California, valued at $50,000. A decree was subsequently submitted to the surrogate for signature, but on account of objections was not signed. Surrogate Fitzgerald yesterday took the testimony of the subscribing witnesses to the will and also the testimony of other witnesses to prove that the testator, some time prior to his death, had definitely given up his residence in California and intended to make his future residence here. According to the laws of California Mrs. Oelrichs would be entitled to the bulk of her husband's estate, whereas, under the laws of the state of New York her share would be comparatively small, as the estate consists almost altogether of personal property, and her right of dower would only extend to a life interest in the real estate. Under the terms of the will practically the whole estate goes to Mr. Oelrichs' brother and sister.

GRIP PRESENTS RECALL.

Washington, Dec. 4.—Mr. A. Grip, the Swedish minister, called on Secretary of State Root yesterday and presented his letter of recall. Mr. Grip is a Norwegian, and it is understood that his place will be filled by a Swede. His recall is an outcome of the separation of Norway and Sweden, he having represented the countries up to the time of that event, afterward continuing as the representative of Sweden.

THE MARKETS.

Dun's Review.

New York, Dec. 1.—Dispatches to Dun's Review indicate that the interruption of the holiday was fully made up by the business in special lines of goods for Thanksgiving. Trade and industry at Boston make steady progress in staple lines, and preparations for Christmas business are on a very large scale. Anthracite collieries work full time, and machine shops are very busy. Mercantile lines at Pittsburg continue active, and the outlook for the balance of the year appears favorable. Retail trade is improved by colder weather and payments are prompt, although not yet entirely satisfactory.

Wholesale trade at Baltimore is active, and collections are prompt, although complaints are still heard at some southerners. Clothing factories report labor scarce. Nashville reports trade more active than last year, many concerns working day and night. St. Louis reports the outward movement of merchandise very heavy, and it would be still greater if more cars were available. Wholesale trade is active and collections are fair. Retail trade at Kansas City is excellent, most jobbing lines are active, but collections continue rather slow. There is much complaint regarding the scarcity of cars. The lumber market at Louisville is irregular, hardware and groceries active, and retail trade good, but there is some plaint regarding collections. Manufacturers at New Orleans operate at full capacity, especially woodworking plants, but drygoods trade is only fair. Mostly seasonable weather at Chicago has improved retail trade in staple lines and demand for holiday goods is well sustained. Manufacturing operations continue undiminished, forward business in railroad equipment accumulating. Retail trade at Cincinnati is active and improvement is reported in wholesale drygoods while the pig iron market has again advanced. Holiday trade at Cleveland opens freely. Building operations continue active. Omaha trade is especially active in groceries and dry goods wear, and payments are prompt. St. Paul reports a steady expansion in demand for holiday goods, but seasonable merchandise is moving irregularly because of unsettled weather. Collections are unsatisfactory. Minneapolis reports retail trade expanding and spring orders show an increase over last year's in jobbing and manufacturing departments. New York city again reports a loss in bank clearings offsetting the substantial gain elsewhere, and total exchanges this week at the leading cities in the United States are $2,357,817,834 2.4 per cent. under these of a year ago.

The loss at New York is due to the smaller volume of business in the stock market; at all other cities clearings reflect a gain, the volume of payments through the banks, 9.0 per cent. over last year with exceptional gain at Minneapolis, Kansas City and San Francisco. In spite of the loss at New York average daily bank exchanges for November are 2.6 per cent. over November last year and 6.1 percent. over the corresponding month in 1904, both very busy months.

The Grain Markets.

Toledo, O., Dec. 4.—With the cables a trifle higher and the curb unchanged, the wheat market opened this morning with a firm tone, which it still held at the noon hour. Cash and December were unchanged at 76¼c, May ⅛c up at 80⅞c, while the distant month was firm at 79¼c. The general news on wheat was strong and looked as though it were going into bullish hands. There was a large short interest in December and May, which was another bullish feature. Wires from Chicago this morning said that wheat opened tame in that market, local stocks showing a decrease of 324,000 bushels in the last week, with 110,000 bushels cancelled over night in addition. Toward noon the cables had advanced ¼d.

Shorts getting under cover at the close, caused a sharp advance and the close was strong. The near months were ⅛c up, at 76⅜c, while the futures were ¼c up, at 81⅛c and 79½c. There was considerable speculative trading done today on the Chicago market.

Corn was steady and unchanged at the opening, influenced by the firm cables and the better tone to wheat, but at the noon hour there had been a slight decline in this grain. Cash was nominal at 44c. December firm at 42⅜c. May at 44⅝c and July at 45¼c. The pressure that was brought to bear on the market toward noon rested on December and July, the other months remaining firm at the opening prices. Commission houses were credited with a fair resistance to every bear attack. Farmers have positively refused to sell on the present basis. The cables still held their good tone at the noon hour.

At the close, this grain also had a good tone and closed higher. The weak months had all regained their loss of the early hours and closed unchanged from the opening, with the exception of May, which was ⅛c up, at 44⅛c. Receipts were light today and also shipments.

Oats were firm at the opening, cash getting away at 36c, December ⅛c lower at 35¼c, May ⅛c up at 37¾, and July unchanged at 35¼c. At noon the loss in December had been regained and the tone was much better than at the opening. The trading was entirely in December and May.

Oats went into strong hands early in the day and at the close was ⅜c up in December at 35½c, while the futures were ⅛c up, at 37⅜c and 35⅜c.

This is the first show of strength oats have made for some time. The world's available supply was decreased in oats as it was in all other grains.

Clover seed was steady and unchanged throughout the list. The figures were $8.32½ for the near months, $8.37½ for January, $8.47½ for March and $8.42½ for February. Receipts today were 250 bags, against 450 last year, while the shipments today were none and 393 bags a year ago. Receipts of alsike today were 10 bags and 60 bags a year ago.

At the close, clover seed had advanced 2¼c throughout the list, reaching the highest point of the year. The noon months closed at $8.35, January $8.46, March $8.50 and February $8.45. Estimated receipts for tomorrow were 115 bags of clover seed and 45 bags of alsike.

TOLEDO.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Dec.	Close—Jan.
Wheat—					
Cash	76¼	76⅜	76¼		76¼
Dec.	76¼	76⅜	76¼	76⅜	76¼
May	80⅞	81¼	80⅝	81¼	80⅝
July	79¼	79½	79¼	79½	79¼
Corn—					
Cash	44	....	....	44	44
Dec.	42⅜	42⅜	42⅜	42⅜	42⅜
May	44⅝	44½	44⅝	44½	44⅝
July	45¼	45¼	45⅛	45¼	45¼
Oats—					
Cash	36	....	....	36	36
Dec	35¼	35½	35¼	35½	35¼
May	37⅜	37⅝	37⅜	37⅝	37⅜
July	35¼	35⅝	35¼	35⅝	35¼
Clover Seed—					
Cash	8.32½	8.35	8.32½	8.35	8.32½
Dec	8.32½	8.35	8.32½	8.35	8.32½
Jan.	8.37½	8.40	8.37½	8.40	8.37½
March	8.47½	8.50	8.47½	8.50	8.47½
Feb.	8.42½	8.45	8.42½	8.45	8.42½
Rye—					
No. 1	70	....	....	70	70
No. 2	68	....	....	68	68
No. 3	65	....	....	65	65
Timothy—					
Prime	2.00	....	....	2.00	2.00
Alsike—					
Prime	7.90	....	....	7.90	7.90
Dec.	7.90	....	....	7.90	7.90
Jan.	7.95	....	....	7.95	7.95

CHICAGO.

Wheat—					
Dec....	73¾	74¼	73⅝	74	73¼
May	78	78¾	78	78¼	78
July	77½	78	77½	77¾	77⅝
Corn—					
Dec....	42¼	42⅞	42⅜	42¾	42⅜
May	43⅝	43⅞	43⅝	43¾	43⅝
July	44½	44⅝	44⅜	44⅝	44½
Jan....	41¼	41¼	40⅝	40⅝	41⅜
Oats—					
Dec....	33	33¼	33	33¼	33½
May	34⅞	35⅛	34⅞	35¼	35
July	33	33¼	33	33¼	32⅝

NEW YORK.

Wheat—					
Dec....	81	81⅞	81	81⅞	80⅞
May	84¼	84⅝	84½	84½	84½
Corn—					
Dec....	52⅝	53	52⅝	53	52⅝
May	50⅝	50⅝	50⅛	50¾	50⅝

ST. LOUIS.

Wheat—					
Dec....	72⅞	73⅜	72⅞	73¾	72⅝
May	77¼	77⅝	77¼	77½	77½

MINNEAPOLIS.

Wheat—					
Dec....	....	....	....	....	75

DULUTH.

Wheat—					
May	....	....	....	....	78⅝
Dec....	....	....	....	77	76⅜
May	....	....	....	79¾	79

CHICAGO PROVISIONS.

Pork—					
Jan.	14.90	14.97	14.90	14.87	14.80
May	15.17	15.27	15.15	15.17	15.05
Lard—					
Dec.	8.62	8.67	8.60	8.60	8.62
Jan.	8.50	8.55	8.47	8.47	8.45
May	8.50	8.57	8.50	8.50	8.47
Ribs—					
Jan.	7.95	8.10	7.95	8.00	7.92
May	8.07	8.20	8.07	8.12	8.00

Live Stock.

Toledo Union Stock Yards, Dec. 4.—Receipts of hogs today were 10 cars and the market 20c higher. Meager supplies and a good demand from all sources caused a sharp upward turn, all grades sharing in the advance. Trading was active and all sold early at quotations.

Cattle receipts were light and the market steady.

Western hog receipts: Chicago, 21,000, estimated, 28,000; Omaha, 8,000; Kansas City, 14,000. There were 9,124 left over in Chicago and the market strong and 5c higher.

Toledo closing quotations:

Hogs—Selected heavies, average 200 to 250 lbs., $6.45@6.55; good mediums, $6.45@6.50; Yorkers, $6.35@6.50; bulk of sales at $6.45@6.50; pigs, $6.35@6.50; stags and roughs, $3.50@5.65.

Cattle—Good to prime steers, 1,500 lbs. and up, $5.00@5.25; fair to choice steers, $4.65@4.90; good to choice feeders, $3.50@4.25; fair to best cows, $3.00@3.50; heifers, $2.75@4.00; bulls, $3.00@3.50; good to choice veals, $6.50@7.00; fair to common, $3.00@4.50.

Sheep—Prime wethers, $5.00@5.25; common to good yearlings, $4.20@4.65; lambs, good to prime, $6.00@6.25; good mixed to choice mixed, $4.75@5.00; culls and common, $2.50@3.75; spring lambs, $6.50@7.25.

Chicago, Dec. 4.—Cattle—Estimated receipts, 7,000; market steady. Beeves, $4.00@7.40; cows and heifers, $1.50@5.25; stockers and feeders, $2.35@4.50; Texans, $3.75@4.60; westerns, $3.90@6.00; calves, $5.25@7.00.

Hogs—Estimated receipts, 21,000; market 5c higher. Mixed and butchers', $6.40@6.45; good heavy, $6.30@6.45; rough, heavy, $5.90@6.10; light, $5.90@6.37½; pigs, $5.60@6.20; bulk of sales, $6.15@6.35.

Sheep—Estimated receipts, 18,000; market strong. Sheep, $3.75@5.50; lambs, $4.50@7.60.

East Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 4.—(Swope's special report to The Blade.)—Cattle, 10 cars; steady; hogs, 15 cars; higher; all grades, $6.75; sheep, 1c cars; lambs, higher; sheep, steady; best lambs, $7.80; best wether sheep, $6.00; mixed sheep, $5.75; prime, heavy ewes, $5.50; culls, $3.00@4.00; calves, $3.00@8.75.

U. S. Yards Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 4.—(Brinkman, Wood & Beck's special report to The Blade.)—Eight loads hogs; higher; heavies, mediums, Yorkers, pigs, $6.65@6.70; sheep, $4.50@5.65; lambs, $5.00@7.60; calves, $5.00@8.50.

U. S. Yards, Cleveland, O., Dec. 4.—(Special report to The Blade from Bower & Bower.)—Hogs, receipts 30 cars; market higher. Mediums, $6.55; lights, $6.45, closing strong. Best lambs, $7.50; sheep strong. Calves and cattle strong.

Toledo Produce.

Butterine—Fancy Elgin creamery, 11lb. prints, 32c; solid packed, 31c; dairy, 18@22c.

Eggs—Strictly fresh, 30c; storage, 24c.

Cheese—Michigan full cream, 14c.

Cabbage—Home-grown, bbl., $1.00.

Brussels Sprouts 15c qt.

Beets—New, bu., 50c.

Turnips—per bu., 30c.

Lettuce—Per lb., 13c.

New Valencia Onions in 2 bushel cases at $3.75 per pkg

Spanish Onions—Per crate, $1.60.

Green Onions—Per bunch, 10c.

Potatoes—New, per bushel, 75c.

Canadian Rutabagas, 40c bu.

Sweet Potatoes—Jersey, per bbl., $3.25; per bu., $1.25.

Round Radishes—Per dozen, 30c.

Celery—Michigan, per doz., 25@35c.

Hubbard Squash—Doz., 75c to $1.00.

Pumpkins—Doz., 75c@$1.00.

Apples—New, homegrown, 60@75c bu.; Snow, bu., $1.00; Greenings, $2.75 per bbl.; Baldwins, $2.75 per bbl.; Spies, $2.50 per bbl.

Limes—Per hundred, $1.00.

Oranges—Florida, box, $2.75; Florida Grape Fruit, $4.00.

Plums—Tragedy, box, $3.00@3.50; Cyman, box, $1.00@1.25.

Bananas—Per bunch, $1.25@1.75.

Lemons—Italian, 300 size, fancy, $4.50; 360 size, $3.50; Californias, $5.50 box.

Dates—Fard, per lb., 8½c; Halloween, 4½c; 1-lb. pkgs 7c, new stock. Stuffed dates, 10c per doz. packages.

Turkish Figs, 4-crown, per lb., 11c; Turkish figs, 3-crown, per lb., 8c; California figs, 1 lb. cartons, 10 to box, 75@80c.

New York State Grapes—Malaga grapes, bbl., $4.50 to $5.00; English Colmar's, $1.15 per pound.

Cranberries—Late Howes, bbl., $8.50; Jersey, bbl., $7.50.

Poultry—Alive—Chickens, 10c; geese, 11c; ducks, 10c; young turkeys, 14c per lb.

Poultry — Dressed — Chickens, 11½c; turkeys, 16c; ducks, 14c; geese 12½@13c.

Dressed Hogs—8@8¼c; cows, 4@6¼c; lambs, 8@9c; spring lambs, 11@12c; calves, 9@10c.

Money and Stocks.

New York, Dec. 4.—(Wall Street.)—Opening prices of stocks were higher than last night with very few exceptions. The volume of dealings was small and price changes generally were narrow. Delaware & Hudson rose 2, Northern Pacific a point and New York Central and Mexican Central large fractions. Atchison and Chesapeake & Ohio fell a point, and American Express 2.

An easier tone developed after the opening, but the reaction did not proceed far before it was checked by the bidding up of the Vanderbilt and other well-known stocks. The majority of the active stocks fluctuated within a range of ½ or less, Delaware & Hudson moved up 1½, Northwestern 3¼, New York, Chicago & St. Louis first preferred 5, New York Central and Virginia Iron 2¾, Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis 2. Hide and Leather preferred 1⅝, and Canadian Pacific, Erie, Louisville & Nashville, Cleveland, C. C. & St. Louis, New York, Chicago & St. Louis, Interborough-Metropolitan stocks, North American and American Agricultural 1. International Power Relapsed 6½, Detroit United Railways 2, Western Union 1½ and Wheeling & Lake Erie first preferred 4½.

Stocks usually dormant held a conspicuous place in the trading. Some of the usually active stocks were shaded on realizing to a level slightly below last night. Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha rose 5, Virginia Iron 4, New York, Chicago & St. Louis